



## A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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## CIRCULARS AND PRICE-LISTS.

## HOW TO DISTRIBUTE THEM TO THE DRUG-TRADE.

MANY of the best advertisers in the drug-trade have endorsed our view that it is more effective as well as cheaper to distribute circulars and price-lists stitched up in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST than sending them singly by post. We make such insets in the C. & D. notable by the fact that we only receive them twice a year for distribution, and, of course, we ensure that they get into the hands of the right people. Sending them singly by post is more or less (principally "more") a lottery, gives immense office trouble, and costs at least three times more than our charge for inserting them in the C. & D. We would advise those who think of the matter to write to our Publisher for particulars about the next distribution—the Summer number, July 28, 1900. He will not only give particulars about the charges, but what artistic assistance he can in designing or arranging insets. The date is two months distant, but near enough for prompt instructions to printers.

## Summary.

THE new Pharmaceutical Councillors thank the voters for their support (p. 901).

THE telephoning of prescriptions is to be regulated by law in Norway (p. 890).

WE give an abstract of the report on the Medical Examinations last year (p. 894).

WE award three half-sovereigns to as many Council-competition contestants (p. 891).

"XRAYSEN" takes stock of the Pharmaceutical Council as now constituted (p. 892).

READING CHEMISTS have formed an association to cover the town and district (p. 873).

THE chemists' cricket season has opened well. Half-a-dozen results are given on p. 874.

A KNIGHTHOOD has been conferred on Mr. T. W. Robinson, L.P.S.I., Kingstown (p. 883).

A PORTRAIT of Mr. Sell, the Cambridge chemist, who is to be made F.R.S., is given on p. 879.

MR. BARRIE points out some errors in B.P. monographs of sodium and iron arsenates (p. 884).

SOME very interesting pharmaceutical items are communicated by a New York correspondent (p. 879).

THE "RED DRENCH" TRADE-MARK is not at all affected by the High Court decision of last week (p. 896).

THE SOUTHWARK CORONER is strongly of opinion that further restriction on the sale of poisons is required (p. 874).

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT have increased the tariff on several spices and other natural produce from the East (p. 891).

GERMAN OBSERVATIONS on the optical rotation of spirit of camphor are compared with Mr. Liversedge's on p. 890.

NEW YORK has obtained Acts to shorten the hours of chemists' assistants, and to consolidate the State pharmacy laws (p. 889).

GOOD RELATIONS between wholesale druggists and the Excise have been furthered by an agreeable dinner reported on p. 872.

THE RAILWAY COMMISSION holds that the recent advance in the carriage of smalls by railway companies was unjustifiable (p. 896).

OUR young analysts had a mixture of calcium sulphate, strontium nitrate, and barium nitrate this month. A lady gets a prize (p. 870).

THE WESTERN CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION of London on Wednesday evening discussed the dispensing of proprietary medicines (p. 900).

THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION'S meeting at Richmond a fortnight since was a success, and is briefly reported on p. 878.

LORD SALISBURY by a vigorous speech in the House of Lords on Tuesday succeeded in defeating the Shops Early-closing Bill introduced by Lord Avebury (p. 881).

AGREEMENTS TO RESTRAIN CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS from starting in business within specified radius and time have been held by the High Court to be valid (p. 896).

THE PHARMACY of MR. J. F. BROWN of Dover, was severely damaged last Saturday evening by an infuriated mob who erroneously took Mr. Brown to be a pro-Boer (p. 873).

THE LAMBETH MAGISTRATE has held that in the division of 3d. bottles of camphorated oil purchased under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, the contents need not be mixed (p. 897).

THERE was a poor tone at the drug auctions to-day, and business, privately, has been dull this week; citric acid is firmer; cod-liver oil is cheaper; quinine is dull and prices easier (p. 906).

WAR NOTES include notes and pictures of x-ray work at Pietermaritzburg (by Mr. Allerton, chemist there), a group of dispensers who are going to the front, and letters from others who are there (p. 876).

THE COMPANIES BILL is now down for second reading on June 16 (p. 881). We urge the new Pharmaceutical Council to return to the matter again with a view to approaching the Government (p. 888).

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL has met this week. There is no pharmacopoeial matter of importance on the agenda. An amendment of the Medical Acts dealing with erasures from the Register, and the Midwives Bill, are the principal topics of discussion (p. 893).

## Students' Corner.

CONDUCTED BY RICHARD J. MOSS, F.I.C., F.C.S.

### QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

THE subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis will be a mixture of not more than three salts. The mixture is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a *stamped and addressed envelope*, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Wednesday, May 30, and the samples will be posted on May 31.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, June 9. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

### REPORTS.

The mixture of salts sent to our correspondents early this month consisted of 3 parts of calcium sulphate, 1 of strontium carbonate, and 1 of barium nitrate.

The calculated composition of such a mixture is as follows:—

Ba	...	...	...	...	...	10.50
Sr	...	...	...	...	...	11.87
Ca	...	...	...	...	...	13.95
SO <sub>4</sub>	...	...	...	...	...	33.49
NO <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	...	...	9.50
CO <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	...	...	8.13
H <sub>2</sub> O	...	...	...	...	...	12.56
						100.00

Traces of iron and chlorine were present as impurities.

Samples of the mixture of salts were sent to 57 applicants, and 31 reports of analyses were received in reply.

The failures in the detection of the several constituents of the mixture were as follows:—Strontium 14, barium 6, nitric acid 5, calcium 1, carbonic acid 1, sulphuric acid 0.

Though several students succeeded in correctly detecting the constituents of the salts present, very few were successful in deciding what the salts were. When the powder was treated with water, barium nitrate dissolved freely and calcium sulphate slowly. The two salts reacted with the production of barium sulphate and calcium nitrate. When the aqueous solution was examined it was found to contain, as its chief constituent, a salt which did not originally occur in the powder. It would have been possible by the use of about half a litre of water to have removed all the calcium in the form of nitrate and sulphate, leaving the strontium carbonate unaltered, and the barium converted into sulphate, both in forms insoluble in water. But such a procedure would be very inconvenient. The best plan was to treat the part not readily soluble in water with dilute hydrochloric acid, and afterwards with strong acid. The part remaining undissolved required special treatment. On fusing it with sodium and potassium carbonates and thoroughly exhausting the fused mass with water, a white powder remained, which dissolved readily in dilute hydrochloric acid. This solution evaporated to dryness, and the residue treated with water gave a solution in which barium was easily detected. On separating the barium as chromate, strontium was readily detected in the remaining solution. Some of the reports before us show that all the strontium occurred in the acid solution, none being detected in the

part insoluble in acids. This result arose from the use of sufficient acid to dissolve all the strontium. Even barium sulphate may be dissolved if a sufficient quantity of water be employed. Recent investigations show that barium sulphate dissolves in water in the proportion of 26 parts per million of the solvent, while 107 parts of strontium sulphate, or 2,070 parts of calcium sulphate, will dissolve in one million parts of water. One of the difficulties in the detection of strontium arose from the fact that it appeared in the acid solution and in the insoluble part, so that no large quantity was detected in either place. The flame-coloration of strontium is, however, so marked and so characteristic that there is no difficulty in identifying supposed strontium precipitates, even in very minute quantities.

### PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis of the powder has been awarded to

W. MAXWELL, who has omitted to give his address.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

ANNE M. BARR, 57 Kempoch Street, Gourock, Scotland.

### MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

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### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Prizes.*—The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher, naming the book they select, and stating how they wish it forwarded.

Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half a guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

*Note.*—All communications should include the names and addresses of the writers.

W. MAXWELL.—You should send your address, as well as your name, with every communication.

TRAGACANTH.—Your diagram of the spectrum observed gives no information of value, because there are so many nearly coincident lines and bands in the spectra of the alkali-earth metals. The best way to identify the lines is to observe two spectra at the same time, one in the upper or lower half of the field of view, by direct observation, the other reflected from a prism or mirror in the other half of the field. If one of these spectra is produced by a known metal you can identify every coincident line in the spectrum of the unknown metal.

ABERTHAW.—You will see from the above table giving the calculated composition of the powder that the quantity of strontium is much larger than you supposed.

CALABAR.—You do not assign any reason for concluding that only a trace of carbonate was present. The effervescence on adding a dilute acid to the powder suspended in water was very well marked. A mere trace of a carbonate would be very difficult to detect qualitatively, owing to the fact that carbon dioxide is soluble in about its own volume of water.

J. R. STOTT.—The indication of strontium obtained in examining the flame-coloration of the original powder should have been followed up. The greater part of the strontium probably occurred in your acid solution of the powder.

J. P. Ross.—See remarks to J. R. Stott.

KRYPTON.—You probably mistook one of the most prominent red lines in the spectrum of strontium for the red-lithium line. The two lines are nearly coincident; but the great sharpness of

the lithium line distinguishes it from the somewhat nebulous line, or, rather, band, produced by strontium in the Bunsen flame.

H. P. W.—In the presence of metals of the alkali-earth group you cannot rely upon the lavender flame-coloration, as seen through blue glass, as an indication of potassium, because those metals emit rays to which blue glass is transparent, and which give a colour resembling that produced by potassium. It is the residue remaining after the removal of all the metals except the alkalies that should be relied upon for the detection of potassium and sodium. The portion of the powder which dissolved in water was not a potassium salt, as you supposed; it consisted of calcium nitrate and sulphate.

CRUCIBLE.—When the original powder, moistened with hydrochloric acid, was held in the Bunsen flame, it was difficult to observe the green coloration of barium, as it was obscured by the intense red colour produced by strontium, but by repeatedly introducing the wire, especially into the extreme outer mantle of the flame, the green could be detected. It was the part of the powder insoluble in water and acids that had to be chiefly relied upon for the detection of barium.

H. TEEB.—The entire powder should not have been fused with sodium carbonate, because some of it was soluble in water and some in dilute hydrochloric acid, and therefore did not require the drastic treatment you adopted. Strontium is only slowly precipitated by calcium sulphate; you probably did not allow sufficient time.

W. J. J.—There was a great deal more to be observed in the flame-coloration than you noticed. The yellow of sodium was visible for an instant, then the brick-red of calcium, followed by the intense red of strontium, which became very conspicuous on again moistening the wire with hydrochloric acid; with care the green of barium could also be observed, but the red strontium colour was the most persistent and prominent feature.

R. E. JACKSON.—Instead of fusing the original powder with sodium carbonate, you should have fused only that part which failed to yield to other treatment. One of the main objects of a qualitative analysis is to separate the constituents of a substance, in order that they may be identified. Every opportunity to effect this separation should be seized. The action of different solvents afforded special opportunities in this case.

UNSIGNED REPORT.—Every communication should bear your name and address. You should have noticed the reddish gas evolved when the powder was heated in an ignition-tube. You do not mention any specific test for nitric acid.

PELORIA.—Unless you used a very small volume of liquid the strontium must have been chiefly in the acid solution. You probably concluded too hastily that calcium sulphate gave no precipitate. The flame-coloration of the precipitate supposed to consist of lithium phosphate should have been observed.

HYDROXYL.—See remarks to "Peloria."

QUERCUS.—If your work was carried out as you describe, the residue, insoluble in water and in acids, must have consisted largely of barium sulphate, and supposing this to have been fused, not merely heated, with sodium carbonate, it would be completely converted into carbouate. This carbonate must dissolve in acetic acid, and the solution could not fail to give a precipitate with potassium chromate.

THOROUGH.—See remarks to "Quercus."

NICKEL.—If the powder had the composition you assigned to it, dilute hydrochloric acid would have slowly dissolved all but a mere trace.

BRIXTON.—In observing the effects of solvents on the powder you ought to have noticed that dilute hydrochloric acid produced effervescence. The 8 per cent. of the carbonic-acid radicle contained in the powder represented a large volume of carbon dioxide. The quantity of chlorine present was very minute. You must have mistaken silver sulphate for chloride; the salts are extremely unlike in appearance.

A. B. C.—So far as we can make out from your report you seem to have fused the powder with sodium carbonate and then treated the entire mass with hydrochloric acid. This treatment would have the effect of leaving matters much as they were at first. The part of the fused mass soluble in water should have been completely removed before the insoluble part was treated with an acid.

EMERSON.—You should have observed the reddish gas evolved when the powder was heated in an ignition-tube. The ferrous-sulphate test, properly carried out, gave a very decided brown ring.

S. V. R.—You do not seem to have noticed that a considerable part of the powder dissolved in water; had you examined this part separately you must have proved aluminium absent. According to your results aluminium was present in a form soluble in water.

METHYL.—You disposed of the part of the powder insoluble in

acids in a very simple manner—by ignoring it altogether; what became of it does not appear from your report.

SPES.—You omitted to give a summary of your results. A mixture containing only the substances you detected would have behaved very differently with solvents.

T. FRENCH.—The precipitate you obtained with silver nitrate was the sulphate, not the phosphate, of silver. You should prepare small quantities of each salt and notice how widely they differ in appearance and in properties. The other reactions you supposed indicated phosphates could not have misled you if you had studied the reactions with a known phosphate.

#### COLLEGE NOTES.

MR. E. H. HARRY's marks in the Analytical Tournament were 533 (not 593), but this does not alter the award.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The students of this College were recently conducted by Mr. Frederick Davis through the London Docks, the warehouses of which are at present very full, the estimated stocks including 30,000*l.* worth of cloves, the bulk being Penang, clean and bright in colour. The beautiful specimens of cinnamon-bark and the delicacy of aroma attracted much attention, whilst the cassia-barks are of the poorest quality, the holders being unable to get rid of them even at the ridiculous price of 1*d.* per lb. The samples will ultimately be used for admixture in ground spice. Every variety of ginger was in evidence, the value of the stocks being about 40,000*l.* Nutmegs to the value of 70,000*l.* were of varying quality; the bulk of mace exhibited was of fine quality; whilst the perfect fruits of *Myristica fragrans* surprised many of the students. Mercury to the value of 285,000*l.* was seen stored in iron bottles. The attendant placed a 14-lb. iron weight in a tank of mercury to show the students that the solid block of iron would sail gallantly round the tank, and it did. The kegs of iodine numbered 80,000, each keg being valued at 90*l.* The ivory-sales were proceeding during the visit. The largest tusk on show weighed 120 lbs., and sold for 85*l.* The students finally saw specimens of essential oils, cinchonas, strophanthus, opium, gums, and resins, a most instructive afternoon having been spent.—On Friday, May 18, the students visited the works of Messrs. Burt, Boulton, Haywood & Co., Silvertown, where the principal staff chemist showed them all the processes involved in tar-distillation, as described in the *C. & D.* Winter Issue, 1900, and afterwards they inspected specimens of sulphonaphthalene compounds with chromium, cobalt, copper, manganese, iron, and lead.

#### South African News.

(From our own Correspondent.)

CAPE TOWN, May 2.

THE CAPE PHARMACY BOARD met at Port Elizabeth on May 11.

IT WAS STEMMY.—A Cape Town firm of tobacco-manufacturers have been fined 3,600*l.* by the Customs for having declared a consignment of stemmed tobacco as unstemmed, thereby saving 6*d.* per lb. duty.

MR. AMBROSE LOMEX, chemist, Molteno, Cape Colony, has made application to the Registrar of Trade-marks at Cape Town to register the word "Coloodyne," covering substances prepared for use in pharmacy.

A TABLOID SCARCITY.—In Cape Town at the end of April no "tabloid" saccharin or saxon could be had at any price. In Bloemfontein they were even worse off, for they had no sugar there. Beecham's pills, too, were at a premium, although they did not reach the guinea a box which the makers have so well advertised.

MR. WILLIAM MARTINDALE, F.C.S., called on several prominent members of the drug-trade while in the South African metropolis. After a few days' stay he sailed for the Garden Colony, with a view to visiting Ladysmith and other battlefields in the vicinity. [Our correspondent reported by cable last week that Mr. Martindale had been entertained to dinner by the Cape Town chemists on May 15.]

"THE TWO FLAGS" and figures of flags crossed is a trademark which Messrs. Edward Cook & Co. (Limited), Bow, London, wish to have registered in the Cape for candles, common soap, detergents, illuminating, heating, or lubricating oils, matches, and starch, blue, and other preparations for laundry-purposes, as well as perfumery (including toilet-articles, preparations for the teeth and hair, and perfumed soap).

## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

Bow's liniment has rarely been used for ending life. A man at Alnwick drank a bottleful of it last week.

Mr. Walter Scott Thomson, M.R.C.S. (46), assistant to Dr. Redwood, Rhymney, died last week from an overdose of laudanum.

Mr. James Miller Lowe, manager for Messrs. Belton & Co., chemists, High Road, Lee, committed suicide on May 19 by taking strychnine.

On May 21 a horse belonging to Messrs. Bell & Riddle, chemists, Hexham, took fright in the street of that town, and, colliding with a building in course of erection, was killed.

During an argument between two soldiers on May 20 in Long Wyre Street, Colchester, one of the controversialists got pushed through the big plate-glass window of the establishment of Messrs. Boots (Limited).

The committee of the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases will shortly despatch an expedition to the Amazon to investigate yellow fever. This is the third expedition organised by the School within the past nine months.

A paragraphic epidemic regarding the advantages of a dispensing career for women has struck the daily newspapers, and Dr. Farrar, of the School of Pharmacy for Ladies (West-bourne Park Road), has been giving an interviewer points.

Mr. Charles E. Pinckney, a chemist at the Army and Navy Stores, stored his "bike" with a jobmaster in Artillery Row, where it got damaged by a horse trampling on it. He sued the jobmaster at Westminster County Court on May 22 for eleven guineas and got two.

The East Ham Urban District Council have accepted tenders for carbolic acid from Messrs. Burt, Boulton & Hayward; for carbolic powder and sulphur dioxide from Mr. K. Dack, chemist and druggist, Plashet Grove; and for carbolic soap from Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company.

The laudanum-poisoning craze is still on. The most noteworthy of several cases reported to us is that in which Mr. Alfred Boyce, chemist and druggist, Worthing, gave evidence at an inquest. A domestic servant named Betts purchased twopennyworth of laudanum from Mr. Boyce, and killed herself with it.

Mr. F. E. Simpson, a Leeds copper-merchant, who had been suffering from neuralgia, got a belladonna-and-chloroform liniment from his medical attendant. The bottle was put along with other medicine-bottles ("which were similar," it was remarked at the inquest), and Mr. Simpson took some of the liniment in error last Sunday and died.

The latest carbolic-acid victims reported are Ellen Collins, who committed suicide at Merthyr on May 17, and a domestic servant named Warwick, belonging to Mile End.—At Rochdale on May 17, George Amos Fryer (21) having quarrelled with his sweetheart, took carbolic acid, and died.—Henry Lindsell, Ilford, was found dead in Turnpike Field, death being due to carbolic-acid poisoning.—A Birmingham boy of 4 years got hold of the carbolic bottle on Sunday when his mother was out, took a drink from it and died.

### Birthday Honours.

Amongst the baronetcies which the Queen has conferred in commemoration of her 81st birthday is one to Mr. James T. Chance, of Birmingham. Sir James Chance, Bart., is a large glass manufacturer, who has devoted his attention particularly to the manufacture of dioptric apparatus for lighthouses. He is a philanthropist, and some time ago spent a sum of 40,000*l.* in building schools in Birmingham, and a similar sum in laying out a new park at Smethwick.

A knighthood has been given to Dr. Hector Cameron, the well-known Scottish physician, President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and member of the General Medical Council.

Professor T. E. Thorpe, LL.D., F.R.S., who has received the order of Commander of the Bath (Civil Division) is the chief of the Government Laboratory at Somerset House.

### Society of Chemical Industry.

The arrangements for the annual meeting to be held in London on July 18, 19, and 20 (referred to in the *C. & D.*, April 21, page 644) are now complete, and vouchers for the groups of fixtures can be had from Mr. A. R. Ling, Hon. Secretary, 9 Bridge Street, S.W. In connection with the annual meeting, Mr. J. W. Swan, F.R.S., has been nominated to the office of President, and Professor C. F. Chandler, Professor G. C. Henderson, Mr. W. F. Reid, Mr. Boverton Redwood, and Mr. A. G. Salamon have been nominated Vice-Presidents. Mr. T. Tyrer has been nominated as an ordinary member of Council. The details of the excursion to Paris, arranged for the week beginning July 21, are also finally settled, the set of vouchers costing 9*l.*, this amount including fares, hotel accommodation, drives, and admissions to the Exhibition.

### The Chemist's Salary.

At a meeting of the London County Council on May 22 the Establishment Committee submitted their report on the annual revisions of salaries. With regard to the chemists' department, it was reported that Mr. R. Grimwood was the senior chemical assistant, and was in receipt of 400*l.* a year. They thought that was hardly an adequate salary for the chief assistant, and recommended that his salary be increased from 400*l.* to 450*l.* by two annual instalments of 25*l.* The consideration of the report was postponed for a week.

### A Pleasant Dinner.

On Wednesday evening, May 16, the Chairman of the Chemical Section of the London Chamber of Commerce (Mr. Thomas Tyrer, F.I.C., F.C.S.), availing himself of the retirement of Mr. R. T. Prowse, C.B., from his position as Secretary of the Customs, and the rumoured retirement of Mr. F. T. Lambert, Chief Inspector of the Excise, asked the members of the sub-section of the Chemical Section, who are exporters of tinctures, perfumes, and essences under the "drawback" system, to join with him in entertaining these gentlemen and Dr. T. E. Thorpe, F.R.S., to dinner at the Trocadero Restaurant. There were present Messrs. Baiss, Stevenson, G. B. Francis, Taubmann, Hill, Lescher (President Drug Club), C. Umney, D. Howard, W. George Whiffen, John Lorimer, E. J. Millard, W. Chattaway, C. Dunn, Ralph Harvey, Gosnell, Roberts, Preston, W. C. Allen, H. R. Arnold, C. Wightman, V. Blagden, C. T. Tyrer, A. Wertheimer, C. Musgrave (Assistant Secretary). Sir Albert Rollit came in later in the evening from Windsor, where he had been dining. The dinner was practically a re-education of the great services conferred by the official gentlemen upon the drug-trade in regard to the "drawback" system, which has worked so wonderfully well since its establishment, and to which Mr. Tyrer devoted so much energy during Sir Albert Rollit's presidency of the Chamber.

After the toast of "The Queen," which was given from the chair, Mr. David Howard proposed that of the "London Chamber of Commerce," to which Sir Albert Rollit replied in an exceedingly forcible speech. Then Mr. Tyrer toasted the healths of Mr. Prowse, Mr. Lambert, and Dr. Thorpe each of them replying, Mr. Prowse dealing with the progress that British commerce during his period of office, and especially referring to the remarkable growth and appreciation of the energies of the British trader which has been observed in official circles during that period. The health of Mr. Tyrer was proposed by Mr. Lescher. Altogether the evening was a most enjoyable one, and the interchange of ideas which took place on many important subjects cannot fail to have a future good influence upon the business of those participating in it.

### London Chamber of Commerce.

At the annual meeting held on May 17 at the offices, Botolph House, Eastcheap, under the presidency of Mr. A. G. Sandeman, the report, which was adopted, stated that there had been eight meetings of the Chemical-trade Section held during the year. As mentioned in the report for 1898, a special committee of the Drug-trade Sub-section was appointed to draw up a statement regarding, and also a list of, spirituous preparations which it was considered were entitled not only to the drawback, but also to the waste allowance, on exportation, with a view to representations to the Inland Revenue authorities at Somerset House. After

meetings of that special committee had been held, a deputation was arranged to the Somerset House authorities, when the views of the Section were laid before them on the following points:—Uniform allowance, additions to schedule, shipment in casks, sampling and measuring, number of measurements, drawback on samples, and exportation of other manufacturers' preparations. Two further meetings of the special committee were subsequently held, and at a meeting of the sub-section a "list" of preparations, as drawn up by the special committee, was adopted, and forwarded to the Inland Revenue Office, with an approved letter signed by the Chairman of the Section. Early in July a reply was received, containing a proposal for abolishing the schedules in question, and substituting therefor a uniform allowance for waste of 3 per cent. in respect of all preparations (plain spirits, of course, excepted) exported on drawback under the existing regulations, without regard to the mode of their manufacture or to the actual loss of spirit in the process. That suggestion, together with others, was considered on the whole as favourable to the trade. On the introduction into Parliament of a Food and Drugs Bill by the Government, two members of the Section were appointed to serve on the Food-products Adulteration Committee of the Chamber, which committee held seven meetings, and suggested various amendments, some of which were ultimately embodied in the Bill. Other matters dealt with by the Section included railway rates for ammonia, exportation of essences, and the mixing of spirit of ether with chloroform.

#### Reading Chemists' Association.

The chemists of Reading and district met together on Tuesday, May 15, to discuss the advisability of forming a local association. Twenty-seven invitations were sent out, to which seventeen responded by attending, and others sent letters of regret at inability to be present. Mr. C. Bradley acted as host; and after supper it was unanimously decided to form an association, to be called "The Reading and District Chemists' Association," and all those present pledged themselves to support it. The objects will be to promote good fellowship among the members, to discuss all questions affecting the interests of the trade, to watch any proposed legislation affecting the interests of pharmacy, and, if necessary, to take action thereon, and to promote the education of the body. An executive committee was elected to draw up rules to be submitted to a future meeting of the members. Mr. C. Bradley was elected President, Mr. G. W. Harrison Hon. Secretary, and Mr. F. Tunbridge Hon. Treasurer.

#### The Mineral-water Industry.

The annual meeting of the National Union of Mineral-water Manufacturers was held on May 16 at Rule's Restaurant, Covent Garden, Mr. Richard Johnson, J.P. (Wigan), presiding. The report presented by Mr. William Tooke, secretary, showed that, though the Association existed more for trade protection than for profit, they had an available balance of 375*l.*, which, added to 250*l.* previously standing to their credit, enabled the members to complete the purchase of their trade journal with 538*l.* 15*s.*, and carry forward 88*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* New associations which had been added to the Union during the year included Belfast, Aberdeen, Perth, and Coventry. No fewer than 15,000 dozen bottles bearing the names of English and Scotch manufacturers had been recovered from the Dublin Association during the year, 953 dozens from Belfast, and 400 dozens from a firm in the Midlands, all of which had been returned to their respective owners. The scheme of insurance by members of the Association against compensation for accidents had so far operated well, there being now a good nucleus. The bottle-charging system fostered by the National Union had been well taken by provincial societies. The officers were thanked for past services and re-elected.

#### Sacking a Chemist's Shop.

At Dover on May 19 the rejoicings over the relief of Mafeking were marred by a regrettable incident. A crowd instigated, it is said, by some baseless rumours concerning the loyalty or pro-Boer sympathies of Mr. J. F. Brown, pharmaceutical chemist, attacked that gentleman's establishment in Cannon Street, and almost wrecked the premises. The

police were unable to control the mob, and a force of over a hundred soldiers had to be obtained before order was restored. Next day Mr. Brown was followed by a hooting, howling crowd after leaving church, and had to be afforded police protection. The following printed notice was afterwards exhibited on the barricaded windows of his shop:—

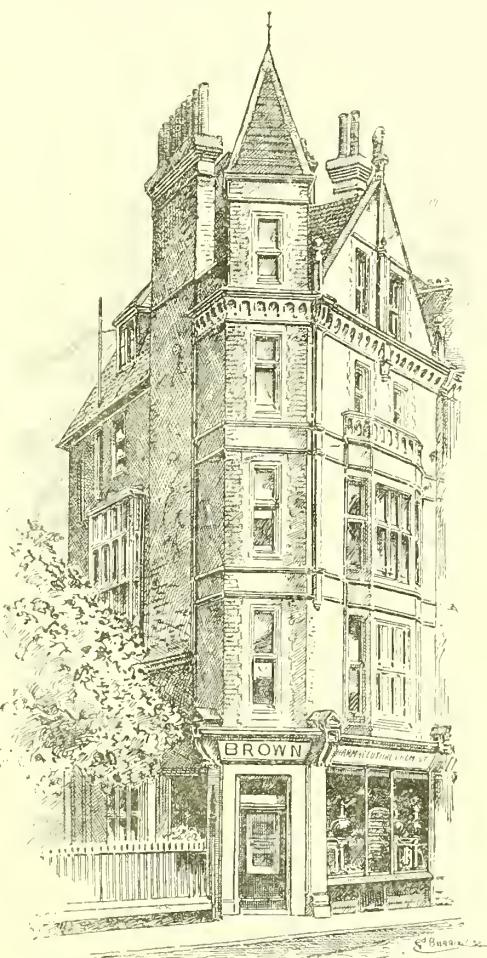
J. F. BROWN

desires to thank the many kind friends who have sympathised with him in the wrecking of his premises last night; and asks the public indulgence under the difficulties which must attend the carrying on of the business.

The altogether unfounded accusations that he is a pro-Boer, or that he displayed the Boer flag from his room, were spread by a planned conspiracy, designed to injure him, and are BASE LIES. Pity the rejoicing over this glorious news should be made the weapon of private hatred.

"God save the Queen."

A further attempt at wreckage was made on Sunday night (May 20), but the police managed to keep the people on the move, two companies of Militia being held in readiness in the town in case of a fresh outbreak. The damage done is estimated at 100*l.* To give an idea of the nature of it, we may state that one of the doors of a large glass case standing against the wall of the shop was splintered;



the marble top of the counter-scales was broken, and also two of the shop-bottles. A 6-gal. window-carboy was broken. It contained solution of nickel sulphate, and a pile of loofahs immediately under it absorbed most of the solution. The heaviest loss—next to the windows—will be the loss through interruption of business. The sketch of the pharmacy which we give is one which we printed a few years ago, when Mr. Brown went into it.

## Cricket Reports.

Stevenson & Howell C.C. have June 15 (home) and June 30 and September 15 (away) as vacant dates available for matches.

"Allenbury's" C.C. v. "Allen's" C.C. — A match was played between these two teams, representing the well-known houses of Messrs. Allen & Hanburys (Limited) and Stafford, Allen & Co., at Wadham Lodge on May 19, and resulted in a win for the former by 24 runs. Scores: Allenburys, 76; Allen's, 52.

The Davy Hill's C.C. have a good list of fixtures this season with clubs connected with the following firms in the drug-trade:—Messrs. Johnsen & Jörgensen; Stevenson & Howell; Burroughs, Wellcome & Co.; Howards & Sons; Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.; Allen & Hanburys; Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson; and Stafford Allen & Co.

Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. C.C. met and defeated the City Mills C.C. (Howards & Son) in the Wholesale Drug League competition at West Ham on May 19. The wicket was very indifferent, and the scoring small:—B. W. & Co., 35; City Mills, 11. Purton took 5 wickets for 4 runs, and Gordon Cowen 4 wickets for 6 runs for the winners.

Aldersgate C.C. (S. Maw, Son & Thompson) v. Crownfield C.C. (Welch, Margetson & Co.).—A City Shields competition match was played between these teams at Wadham Lodge on May 19, and resulted in a win for the former. Scores:—Aldersgate, 114 (Jones 24, Laurence 29 not out); Crownfield, 41. Clay took 7 wickets for 13 runs for the winners.

The first match in the Wholesale Drug Cricket League was played at Wadham Lodge on May 12, between Burgoyne's C.C. and City Mills C.C., resulting in a win for the former by 80 runs to 48. For the winners Moxon was highest scorer with 30 runs. The remaining matches to be played during the season in the Wholesale League competition are as follows:—

May 19	City Mills v. Burroughs, Wellcome's	West Ham Pk.
June 26	Burroughs, Wellcome's v. Davy Hill's	Bowes Park
June 2	Davy Hill's v. City Mills	Brockley
" 16	Burroughs, Wellcome's v. Burgoyne's	Bowes Park
" 30	City Mills v. Burgoyne's	West Ham Pk.
July 7	Burgoyne's v. Davy Hill's	Wadham Lodge
" 21	City Mills v. Davy Hill's	West Ham Pk.
" 28	Burroughs, Wellcome's v. City Mills	Bowes Park
Aug. 11	Davy Hill's v. Burgoyne's	Brockley
" 18	Burgoyne's v. Burroughs, Wellcome's	Wadham Lodge
Sept. 22	Davy Hill's v. Burroughs, Wellcome's	Brockley

## Noxious Drugs to Agriculturists.

Amongst the subjects discussed by the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture, held at York on May 17, was the sale of noxious drugs to farm-servants. In the course of the debate it was pointed out that farm-servants often ordered such drugs through carriers or hawkers, and that some chemists discouraged such sales by charging four or five times the value of the drugs. The Union resolved—

That the law regulating poisons should be strengthened, with the view of restricting the sale to farm-servants and others working with farm stock.

Resolutions in favour of such a course had, it was stated been passed by various agricultural clubs in the country.

## A Coroner on the Sale of Poisons.

After investigating the circumstances of three cases of suicide by poisoning at Southwark this week, Mr. S. F. Langham, the coroner, said he hoped it would not be long before the regulations as to the sale of poisons were altered, as his black-list got worse and worse instead of better. He was only speaking from memory, but he thought he would not be wrong in saying that the last twenty-three suicides which he had inquired into had been due to poison, and the reason being that under the present laws poison was the easiest mode of death. Poison was so easy to obtain. The increase in the number of carbolic-acid poisoning cases which had come under his notice had been enormous, and it was the same with all his colleagues. It

was greatly to be deplored that such a state of things existed.

## A Model Hospital.

The Appeal Committee of the Charing Cross Hospital has organised an exhibit at the Woman's Exhibition, Earl's Court, which is likely to prove interesting to the public generally, and especially so to pharmacists. In order to give an idea of how much is needed in the way of thought, preparation, and expense for the proper equipment of up-to-date hospitals, the committee have fitted up a model hospital, comprising a ward with eight beds (made to look like sixteen by means of large mirrors), an operating-room, an anaesthetic-room, a Röntgen-ray room, sanitary annexe, laundry, and convalescent-home. Each department is complete and perfect in every respect. The beds in the ward are all different in construction, and each contains a lay-figure, illustrating eight serious cases of wounding and consequent injury. The lockers, ingenious contrivances in enamelled white wood, are supplied by Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Thompson. These are so constructed that they may either be used as a chair or a table, and have a drawer for clothing, books, or other nicknacks, a receptacle for bottles at the side, a white opaline slab on top for medicine-glasses, a hook for chart, and a towel-rail behind. The whole is on castors, and can be wheeled about at pleasure by the patient. The operating-room has been provided with a handsome brass and glass airtight and dust-proof cabinet, with surgical instruments, by Messrs. Maw, who also show an electric steriliser for instruments, an automatic irrigator, an airtight brass and glass cabinet for antiseptics, and an enamelled iron operating-table with an arrangement for the "Trendelenberg" position, and which may be put on or off wheels by means of a pedal. In the anaesthetic-room the same firm have a new electric operating-lamp for throat, ear, or eye operations, and electric batteries and anaesthetic accessories of all descriptions. In the x-ray room the perfected stereoscopic method of showing foreign substances in the body was demonstrated by the medical officer in charge of the x-ray department of Charing Cross Hospital, who has also on view a new rotary interrupter fitted to the coil. The x-ray apparatus used is made by Messrs. H. W. Cox (Limited), and the radiographs are shown on Messrs. Johnson & Matthey's barium platino-cyanide screen. Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. contribute a field-hospital equipment, with army regulation pattern "Tabloid" and "Soleil" medicine-chests. The tent and field hospital, illustrating field-work of every description, has been fitted up outside the main building, and is under the direction of an old Charing Cross student, who is a major of the R.A.M.C.

## The Local Tender.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee of the Tenby Corporation on May 18 the tender of Mr. Alfred Livesey, chemist, Tenby, for the supply of Jeyes' disinfectant at 4/- for a 20 gal. cask was recommended for acceptance.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

## Personal.

The Lord Chancellor, on the recommendation of the Right Hon. Sir H. H. Bruce, has appointed Mr. W. J. Baxter, M.P.S.I., ex-chairman of the Urban Council of Coleraine, to the Commission of the Peace for the County of Londonderry.

## Lecture on the War.

An interesting entertainment has been given in the New Town Hall, Newry, by Mr. J. A. Doyle, M.P.S.I., Belfast. The attraction bore the form of a good display of cinematograph and lantern views of incidents of the present war in South Africa, and of the triumphal entry of her Majesty into Dublin last month. The proceeds were devoted to the War Fund.

## Ownership of Shopfittings.

Last week in the Bankruptcy Court, Dublin, a claim was heard to determine the ownership of the fittings in the shop of Mr. Mackillip, pharmaceutical chemist, Rathgar Road, Dublin. The landlady claimed the fittings under an alleged agreement that if the tenancy lasted for seven years from 1892 they were to be hers. After hearing the evidence Mr. Justice Boyd declared the goods to be the property of the assignees in bankruptcy.

## Compounder and Contractor.

At the meeting of the Newcastle-West Guardians last week, a letter was read from the Local Government Board calling attention to the fact that Mr. Pepper, the compounder of medicines, is in the employment of Mrs. Cahill, the drug-contractor. It was further stated that Mr. Pepper would lay himself open to the charge of being directly or indirectly concerned in supplying or furnishing goods or materials for the Workhouse, or in a contract relating thereto, and be liable to penalties. The Clerk was directed to send a copy of the letter to Mr. Pepper.

## Railway Commission.

The appointment by the Irish Viceroy of a special commission to inquire into the present unsatisfactory condition of railway and canal communication in Ireland is being strongly urged by the Dublin Port and Docks Board, who contend that under existing conditions goods can be sent cheaper from Birmingham to Sligo than from Dublin to Sligo.

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

## Business Change.

Mr. J. T. Wright, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business lately carried on by Mr. David Allan, North High Street, Fisherrow, Musselburgh.

## Carbolic Acid for Cough-mixture.

A boy, 5 years of age, son of an Ayr gardener, named Galt, was fatally poisoned on May 17, by his mother giving him a dose of carbolic acid in mistake for cough-mixture.

## Edinburgh Chemists' Golf Club.

The spring holiday competition of this club was held at Dunbar in pleasant golfing weather, with the following results:—

Secretary's prize—Mr. T. D. Burt, 105—18 = 87; 2nd prize, after playing off the tie, Mr. H. D. Alexander, 98 scratch; 3rd prize, Mr. W. C. Baker, 103—5 = 98.

The company were entertained to luncheon at the Roxburgh Hotel by the Captain, Mr. Geo. Lunan. There was a good turn-out, and an enjoyable day was spent.

The second competition this year for the "Gibson Handicap Medal" was played last week over the Braids course, with the following results:—

1st, Mr. T. D. Burt, 111—18 = 93; 2nd, Mr. W. B. Cowie, 116—18 = 98; 3rd, Mr. W. G. McNab, 100 scratch.

The second round of the hole-and-hole competition, which has been in progress for some time, has now finished. Under-noted is the draw for the third round.

Handicap holes. Handicap holes.

5	Mr. C. F. Henry	against	Mr. W. B. Cowie	6
3	Mr. A. F. Dawson	"	Mr. H. D. Alexander	0
0	Mr. J. G. Anderson	"	Mr. T. D. Burt	6
3	Mr. Wm. Lyon	"	Mr. W. C. Baker	2

## Satisfaction.

The Pharmaceutical Council election attracted very general interest among chemists in the Edinburgh district, and some were induced to send in their voting papers who had not done so for some years before. As a consequence

the result was awaited with a certain amount of excitement, and was received with much satisfaction. Even those who have not made up their minds to join the forward party on the question of the Companies Bill are rather pleased to see the "old gang" broken up. It is generally believed that this "shaking up of the dry bones" in the Council will have a beneficial effect on the membership in the Edinburgh district, and, indeed, all over Scotland as, for a long time past, a feeling of indifference and inertia has been prevalent on account of the apparent hopelessness of moving the Council for the ultimate benefit of the members.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

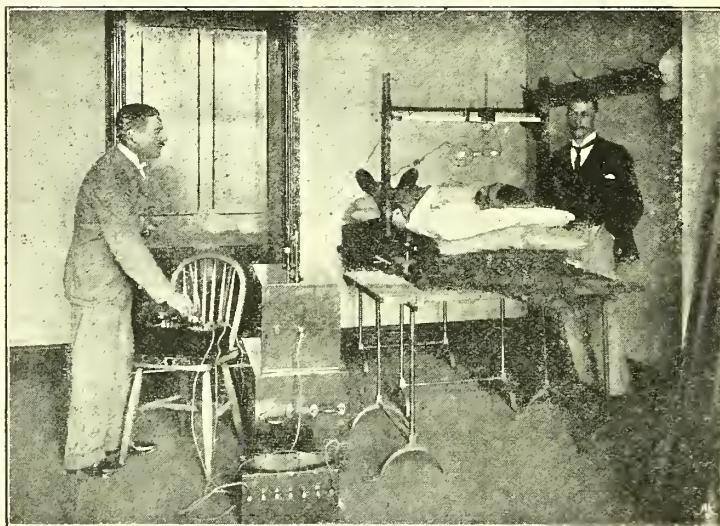
THE PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY.—The May meeting was presided over by M. Yvon (Vice-Chairman), who alluded to the recent decease of the President (M. Planchon). "His death," said M. Yvon, "leaves a deep gap in the bosom of our Society, of which he was (besides President for the year) the permanent General Secretary—that is, the heart and soul—during twenty-four years." He also alluded to the death of M. Milne-Edwards, an associate member of the Society, sketching in a few sentences the brilliant career of the eminent zoologist. Four candidates, all prominent in the pharmaceutical world of Paris, presented themselves for the vacancy as resident member. M. Barillé presented (in the name of Pharmacist-Major Roeser) a paper on "The Fermentation of Mulberries." It would appear that the mannite found in these fruits when crushed must be the product of micro-organisms. M. Bourquelot pointed out the difference in colour between two alcoholatures of anemone pulsatilla—one prepared cold, as specified in the Codex, and one with boiling alcohol. A discussion followed. By the decease of Professor Planchon, M. Yvon passes from the Vice-President's chair to that of President of the Society.

JURIES OF AWARDS.—The principal item of interest to exhibitors at the Paris Exhibition during the past week has been the publication of the lists of the juries of awards. In Group XIV., devoted to "Chemical Industry" in a very comprehensive sense; Class 87, "Arts of Chemistry and Pharmacy"; and Class 90, "Perfumery," are those of most to pharmacists. In the former are included the names of MM. Louis Adrian, the well-known manufacturer of pharmaceutical preparations; Astier, the pharmacien-deputy and proprietor of patent medicines, who has introduced a new pharmacy law in opposition to that supported by the General Association of French Pharmacists; M. Charles Lauth, a well-known chemist and honorary administrator of the Sèvres National Porcelain Manufactory; M. Georges Lefebvre (of Lefebvre frères), manufacturer of tinctures, and President of the Syndical Chamber of Chemical-manufacturers; M. Alfred Riche, director of experiments for the French Ministry, and until recently professor at the Paris School of Pharmacy; M. Louis Troost, a leading chemist, and professor at the Paris Faculty of Sciences; M. Champigny, Honorary President of the Pharmacists' Syndical Chamber of the Seine, is also included. For Class 90, "Perfumery," the names of the principals of four of the leading Paris houses are given—viz., MM. Edmond Gallet (of MM. Roger & Gallet), Victor Klotz (of Ed. Pinaud), Lucien Piver, and Paul Prot (of Lubin's); also as several gentlemen connected with perfumery firms or the supply of raw materials for perfumery. It is remarked that no names of foreign firms are included in the above list; but I understand that the juries are not yet definitely formed. [We understand that Mr. Charles Umney, of London, has been appointed a juror in pharmaceutical chemistry.—ED. C. & D.]

SACCHARIN-SMUGGLING IN BELGIUM.—Some months ago the Brussels Excise officials got wind of extensive importations across the Luxembourg frontier of saccharin, which figures under the head of prohibited articles in the Belgian tariff. Patient investigations have just enabled the authorities to arrest several dealers in brewers' sundries, who carried on an extensive trade in this article. The loss to the revenue this year alone is estimated at 400,000f. (16,000£.).

## War Notes.

TRANSVAAL AND O.F.S. SUBSCRIBERS.—Any subscribers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST whose places of business were in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, and who have



MR. ALLERSTON AND DR. DODDS IN THE X-RAY ROOM.

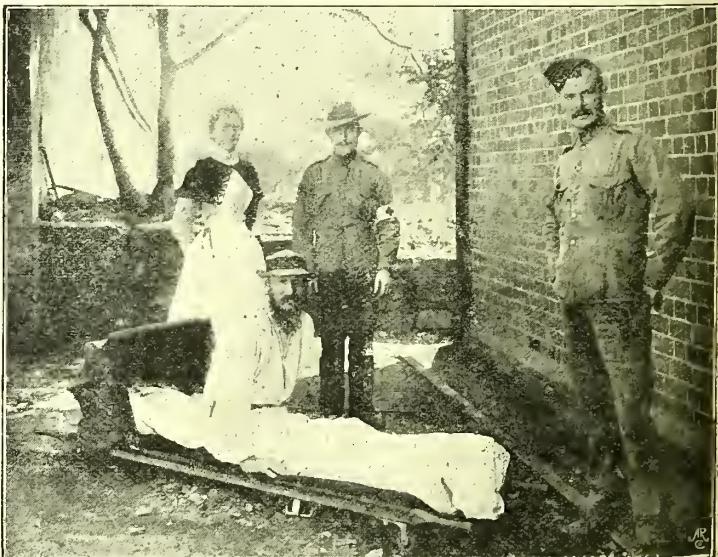
not received their copies since the war broke out, are requested to send their names and addresses to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. We have reserved their copies of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and copies of the DIARY, and these we shall send to them as soon as they inform us of their addresses. This note also applies to subscribers in beleaguered towns in other parts of South Africa whose supply of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has been stopped by the Post Office owing to the war.

### THE PIETERMARITZBURG X-RAY SER.

A Johannesburg correspondent, writing from Pietermaritzburg on April 28, gives interesting particulars regarding the radiographic work which has been done in the military hospitals there by Mr. A. Allerston, a Natal pharmacist. Mr. Allerston, says our correspondent, is proprietor of the firm Stantial & Allerston, wholesale and retail chemists, Pietermaritzburg. He is one of those phenomena peculiar to South Africa, whom fresh arrivals from Europe cannot soon comprehend, a son of the soil, a colonial—sometimes wrongly termed an Afrikander; but, by whatever name you call him, Mr. Allerston is a most up-to-date chemist and a 'cute business man. He was born in Pietermaritzburg, served his apprenticeship also in this town with Mr. E. S. T. Stantial, and has never been outside Natal. We know him as one of our "Garden Colony" brothers-in-arms, of whom all patriotic Britishers are so justly proud. In walking through his elegant pharmacy, neat offices, and methodically-arranged wholesale departments one would imagine that Mr. Allerston had just arrived from the "Square" or some large City house. There are larger, but I do not know of better-arranged, pharmaceutical establishments in South Africa than that of Stantial & Allerston. Three months before the ultimatum Mr. Allerston was asked by a surgeon of the Volunteers

whether, if a large *x*-ray apparatus was sent for, he would undertake to work it for the Natal Volunteers, and he agreed to do so. It was cabled for, and arrived a week before war was declared. Mr. Allerston went with it to Ladysmith to work for the Volunteers, but was recalled by the Imperial authorities to Pietermaritzburg, and was just able to sneak out of Ladysmith with it the day before the town was invested. He has *x*-rayed very few Volunteers, as they were mostly in Ladysmith during the siege, but he has had plenty of work otherwise, and has exposed 312 12 by 10 plates on Imperial troops, and eighteen on Boer prisoners. He has been very successful in localising, and has done all the *x*-raying at the military hospitals, College, and Fort Napier, which practically meant, during the efforts to relieve Ladysmith, all Natal. Mr. Allerston has loyally devoted nearly all his time during the past six months to the service of the Empire, and his business has been managed by Mr. P. Levy and a staff of assistants. Some of the Boers have a wild, worried look when they are being put under the instrument, as if they were wondering what torture awaited them. A Boer who was hit on the chest by a piece of Maxim-Nordenfeldt shell at Spion Kop was being *x*-rayed. After the plate was exposed, and he was told to get up, he immediately demanded that the "dingus" (thing) be produced from the box and given to him. He evidently understood that it was the extraction operation he had undergone at the hands of these wonderful rooineks. In the first of the photographs which I send you Mr. Allerston is shown in his capacity as *x*-rayser, and standing beside the patient is Dr. A. Dodds, an M.B., C.M., of Glasgow

University, and a native of Kilwinning, Ayrshire. He is an operating surgeon (civil), employed at the College Hospital. During the past five years Dr. Dodds has been the medico to the Barnato group of East Rand Mines, and had also a considerable private practice at Germiston. The second picture shows a wounded Boer prisoner being carried on a stretcher from the prison hospital to the



A BOER PRISONER ON THE WAY TO THE X-RAY ROOM.

*x*-ray room in charge of a Netley sister and two R.A.M.C. orderlies.

CIVIL COMPOUNDERS FOR ACTIVE SERVICE are leaving the head dépôt at Aldershot almost daily. A number of young chemists from all parts of the Kingdom, but chiefly from Ireland, who are detailed for duty, and are daily

expecting orders for Southampton, have had their photographs taken for THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and we give below a reproduction of the group.

#### CIVIL COMPOUNDERS' EXPERIENCES.

News comes to hand with great regularity from our *confrères* with Lord Roberts's forces, and the letters printed below describe the incidents of camp-life up to the grand march to Kroonstadt.

Glen (14 miles north of Bloemfontein),  
14th Brigade Field Hospital, April 26, 1900.

I have much pleasure in forwarding a few further notes. My last letter detailed my experiences up to Wednesday, the 11th inst., from Wettfontein.

On the Tuesday I went over to the station for a case of fresh drugs. We requisition regularly for a fresh supply, but never secure as much as we ask for. During the day jam was served out to the troops. The next day (Wednesday) it rained heavily all day. As the Modder was in flood they were unable to carry our meat for dinner across it to us, so a "Macconochie" ration was served out to each of us. This is a tin containing a cooked dinner, consisting of soup, meat, and potatoes (cold, of course); altogether the contents of each tin weigh 1 lb. 7 oz. Early in the evening the news arrived of the death of one of our fellow-compounders at Bloemfontein of enteric fever, throwing a gloom over the camp. On the Thursday all of us were medically examined to see if we were fit for a further advance. The next day (Friday), I may safely say, was the busiest in my life, as the other compounding went to Bloemfontein for an extra supply of drugs. I was left to dispense and dress for 230 patients.

SERGT. COTTER	L. JENNITT	W. NESBITT	R. ECCLES	J. I. THIRDE	SERGT. FITZGERALD
(Belfast)		(Belfast)	(Belfast)	(Dundee)	



C. H. EVANS  
(Cardiff)

L. W. LONGMORE  
(Belfast)

W. M. SCOTT  
(Belfast)

W. PEGG  
(Burton-on-Trent)

E. BARNES  
(Belfast)

W. COOPER  
(London)

R. J. ROGERS  
(Penzance)

G. E. HALL  
(Ballymena, Ireland)

#### DISPENSERS FOR THE FRONT.

Before breakfast the following morning I took a walk over to the field-bakery close at hand. It consisted of twenty improvised ovens, made up of arched-metal plates covered over with mud and stones. A fire is put inside the ovens, and when these are thoroughly heated up it is taken away and the bread put in. The oven is then closed by a metal plate; close at hand there is a couple of marquees where the dough is mixed. In this manner 8,000 loaves are baked daily.

At night the rain came down in torrents, flooding the surgery. I had to jump when I found I was lying in a pool of water with my blankets soaking. After this I slept in a sitting posture on a case, my fellow compounders doing likewise. For the first time since the beginning of February we had a change in the bill of fare for dinner; our camp-ovens had arrived from Enslin, and we had a roast for dinner.

On the Sunday morning Communion service was held out in the open air, four of the C.I.V. forming an audience. In the middle of the service one of the men fainted. During the day guns could be heard firing in the distance. Another death occurred in the hospital in the afternoon. After death the corpse is washed with carbolic lotion and sewn up in a blanket. In the afternoon a battalion of the C.I.V. passed through our camp, encamping close at hand at a place previously occupied by the Norfolks, who moved on to rejoin their brigade. To-day (Thursday), after breakfast, we had a hunt after a rat amongst the medicine-panniers, and, after an exciting chase, managed to kill it.

A Veterinary Field Hospital has been established at Bloemfontein, and all serious cases amongst the animals of the Field Horse are sent there for treatment. Each animal is accompanied by a document showing the corps to which it belongs, regimental

number, disease, and date of first admission to treatment. The Field Veterinary Hospital is distinguished by a red flag with a white horse in the centre.—G. M.

The first part of the following letter deals with the march from Paardeberg to Bloemfontein, which we have already given in previous issues:—

Karee Siding, Orange Free State, April 26, 1900.

At last the long-looked-for Bloemfontein was drawing near, and every man was glad—no doubt looking forward to having a week's rest at the least—but lo! and behold, the hopes of the 7th Division were sadly shattered, as just when we had got nicely settled down, orders came on March 27 that we were to push on towards Brandfort. We have not got that length yet, but are as far north as we can possibly get at present, as the Boers are in touch with our outposts on the top of some kopjes a few miles away. Before we were enabled to hold this place we had a very severe fight, losing about two hundred killed and wounded. It was then that I got the first sight of real warfare, men being brought in shot in all parts. The Boers, however, seem to have a liking to shoot in the lower part of the stomach, as the number of wounds the men received in that part were more numerous than any other place. We had to fill the responsible part of the Field Hospital also, as we had left ours in Bloemfontein full with sick. We managed very well, and, fixing up tents, we soon had all the wounded under cover and their wounds done up in the best possible manner until morning, although we had two operations during the small hours. We have been here four weeks and have had all the wounded removed, but have now some two hundred of the brigade sick to look after, mostly fever (enteric), and a great many cases of dysentery; but no doubt before you receive this we will have the lot sent down country, and we will be on our way to Pretoria. As to the dispensing, there is nothing much in that as we have nearly all the drugs in tabloid form. One drug we have found to do a great deal of good towards checking dysentery is the tabloid of pulv. ipecac. sine emetina in 30.gr. doses, sometimes giving a little opium with it. As to the enteric cases, we can only keep them on milk diet until they are able to be sent down country. I may say, for my own part, that I have been well treated since landing at Cape Town, being free from all fatigue duties, and, of course, we have got the stripe now to protect us from the private. Although our lot is a hard one, we will in after life be able to look back on it, and I must say that the experience in surgery that I have seen will stand me in good stead in the future.—C. T. D.

TROOPER W. B. MATHIAS, of the Cape Mounted Rifles, and a son of the late Mr. Thomas Mathias, chemist and druggist, Saundersfoot, near Tenby (the business being still carried on by Mrs. Mathias), took part in the defence of Wepener, and was amongst the list of wounded. The news has been received with general regret by the local people, with whom Mr. Mathias is a general favourite.

## Recent Wills.

CLARK.—Probate of the will of the late Mr. Edward Clark, J.P., retired chemist, Lancaster, who died on March 19 last, has been granted. The will is dated January 5, 1899, and is amended by two codicils. The gross value of the estate is sworn at 44,644*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.* To his sister the deceased grants the use and enjoyment of his household furniture, horses, carriages, and personal effects at Queen Street, Lancaster, together with an annuity of 25*l.*, and, subject to the payment of that and certain other legacies to personal friends and servants, the residuary estate is to be equally divided between his two nephews, Edward George Clark, solicitor, Lancaster, and James Richard Joseph Clark, solicitor, Liverpool, to the former of whom he bequeathes an estate at Gressingham, near Lancaster, and to the latter a sum of 880*l.* By the latest codicil a legacy of 50*l.* is bequeathed to Mr. F. H. Gardner, Clerk to the Lancaster Borough Magistrates.

TUSTIN.—A decree has been pronounced in favour of the force and validity of the will, dated September 24, 1898, of Mr. Jesse John Tustin, of Burstow Hall, near Horley, and formerly of 60 Tustin Street, Old Kent Road, colour manufacturer, and of the firm of Dr. Horace Cory & Co., chemical-colour manufacturers, who died on March 29, 1899, and whose estate has been valued at 35,636*l.* gross and 35,044*l.* net. The testator left all his property in trust for sale and realisation, and to pay the net proceeds to the trustees of the London Temperance Hospital Endowment Fund, but such portion (if any) of his estate as is not by law applicable for charitable purposes is to be divided between his daughters Jessie Hannah Tustin and Marian Lindsay.

WALKER.—The will of Mr. Henry Walker, chemist and druggist, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, who died on October 2, 1899, has been proved by Mrs. E. E. Walker, widow and sole executrix of the testator, whose estate was sworn at 615*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* the net personalty being 469*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*

## American Pharmaceutical Association.

AT the annual convention of this Association, held at Richmond, Va., on May 7 to 12, one of the most important pieces of business transacted was the formation of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties. The representatives of schools and colleges of pharmacy all over the States attended, and the following officers were elected:—President, Professor A. B. Prescott, Michigan; Vice-President, Professor Joseph P. Remington, Philadelphia; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. H. Bradbury, Washington. The object of the Conference is to work towards the elevation and uniformity of the pharmaceutical curriculum, and to set a graduation standard for recognition by the colleges.

In the section of Education and Legislation the Chairman (Dr. C. B. Lowe, of Philadelphia) dealt principally with the necessity for better and more uniform pharmaceutical legislation, more stringent preliminary education of apprentices and students, and the desirability of more correct and uniform labels on manufacturers' products. He also recommended uniform cost and price marks on prescriptions, and advocated the repeal of the stamp-tax. Sunday observance in trading was likewise urged, as well as the endowment of colleges of pharmacy by rich men throughout the country.

With regard to legislation during the past year the Secretary (Mr. J. A. Koch, of Pittsburgh) had little to report. He alluded to the New York State pharmacy law, and informed the section that there are 73,347 registered pharmacists in the United States and 7,841 registered assistants.

In the Scientific Section papers were read on "Medicinal Indigenous Plants," "So-called Ipecac.—*Polygala angulata*," and the "Proximate Analysis of *Eupatorium perfoliatum*." A considerable amount of discussion arose from a paper contributed by Mr. Seward W. Williams on "What Representative Pharmacists and Physicians think about Plasters." It was thought by some that the paper might be intended to promulgate the interests of certain manufacturers (Mr. Williams is chemist to Messrs. Seabury & Johnson), and there was slight opposition, but the paper was finally ordered to be abstracted for publication. Amongst other contributions to this section were papers on "The Composition of Spirit of Ether and Ethereal Oil," "The Nature of Commercial Sanguinarine," and "Alcohol as an Antidote for Carbolic Poisoning." In the last a recommendation that druggists should sell only a 20-per-cent solution of carbolic acid for household purposes was adopted, and this communication urged that diphtheria antitoxin should be recognised in the United States Pharmacopoeia.

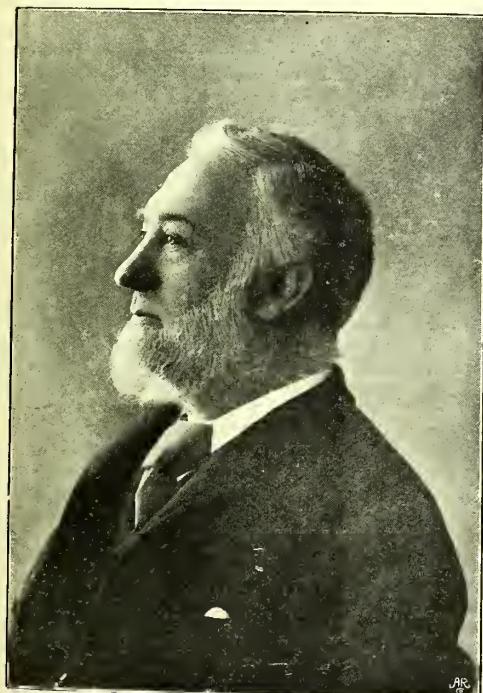
A committee consisting of Professors Rusby, Kraemer, and Culbreth, was appointed to address the Secretary of Agriculture on the question of the cultivation of medicinal plants, and Mr. Schlotterbeck, of Michigan, and Dr. Dohme, of Baltimore, were appointed members of the Committee on Research. It was reported that 120 new members had been elected to the Association, and that Professor H. M. Whelpley (St. Louis) is to be local secretary for the coming year. A committee has been appointed to confer with the National Association of Retail Druggists, to endeavour to arrange that the two bodies meet together every year. The establishment of a new section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing was recommended.

SERVIAN DRUG-TRADE.—Drugs, chemicals, and colours were imported into Servia in 1898 to the value of 52,814*l.*, a sum which is less than the importation during 1897 by 5,035*l.* Of the total Austria-Hungary furnished to the value of 39,174*l.*, Germany, 8,247*l.*, and Great Britain, 1,433*l.* Chemicals and drugs amounted to 17,844*l.*, or 2,184*l.* less than in 1897. "Made-up drugs" and medicines, 18,870*l.*, an increase as compared with the preceding year of 2,146*l.* Dyes, 16,100*l.*, a decrease of 4,997*l.* During the first nine months of 1899 the importation under the general head of drugs, chemicals, and colours was valued at 66,733*l.*, an improvement, as compared with the corresponding period of 1898, of 29,426*l.*

## Chemical Society.

THE longer the session lasts in Burlington House the more uninviting becomes the programme, and the less inclined are the veterans to turn out. When the proceedings opened last Thursday evening (May 17), a few minutes after 8 o'clock, nine-tenths of those present were students from the Kensington Colleges. Several pharmaceutical chemists were present, and as the evening wore on the front bench slowly filled up.

There was a special tribute of acclamation to Mr. W. J. Sell, M.A., when he rose to continue his observations on the chlorine derivations of pyridine. This is how the Fellows of the Society indicate their appreciation of the honour done to those of their number who are elected Fellows of the Royal Society. Mr. Sell is one of the two chemists who have been selected for election this year.



MR. WILLIAM SELL, M.A., F.C.S.

Mr. Sell's qualifications for the F.R.S. are thus officially stated:—

William James Sell, M.A., Senior Demonstrator of Chemistry, University of Cambridge. Author of the following papers:—“Volumetric Determination of Chromium” (*Trans. Chem. Soc.*, 1879); “On a Series of Salts of a Base containing Chromium and Urea,” Nos. 1 and 2 (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1882 and 1889); “Anhydro-Derivatives of Citric and Aconitic Acids” (*Trans. Chem. Soc.*, 1892); Salts of a new Platinum Sulphurea Base” (*Brit. Assoc. Rept.*, 1893); “Studies on Citrazinic Acid,” Parts I.-V. (*Trans. Chem. Soc.*, 1893-1897); “Note on the Action of Chlorine on Pyridine” (*Trans. Chem. Soc.*, 1898); “The Chlorine Derivatives of Pyridine,” Parts I.-II. (*ibid.*, 1898); “Interaction of Ammonia and Pentachlorpyridine” (*ibid.*); “Constitution of Glutazine” (*ibid.*).

The paper which Mr. Sell communicated on behalf of himself and Mr. F. W. Dootson, M.A., was the sixth of the series on Pyridine derivatives, and dealt with the constitution of some aminochloropyridines. Compounds obtained and reported on in previous papers have now had their formulae established. The authors also reported upon a resinous residue which they obtained in steam distilling amino-tetrachloropyridines. They find that on acting upon it with sodium carbonate and steam-distilling an aminotrichlorpyridine is obtained, which has two pyridine rings, joined together by the N and C.

Following this communication was one by Dr. Chattaway and Dr. Orton (read by the former) in continuation of their acetanilide research reported in the *C. & D.* of April 12. The authors described the ortho-substituted nitrogen chlorides and bromides ( $C_6H_4Cl$ ,  $NCl$ ,  $COCH_3$ , and the corresponding bromide), and showed that both undergo transformation into the 2 : 4 disubstituted acetanilides. The communication evoked commendatory remarks from Drs. Wynne, Hewitt, and Collie.

Dr. Divers then spoke on an ammonium imidosulphite  $3NH_2SO_2$  or  $HN(SO_2NH_4)_2$  which crystallises in micaceous crystals from the strong alcoholic solution, and has an acid reaction (the potash salt is alkaline). It is prepared from ammonium amido-sulphite by heating to  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$ . in a current of hydrogen or nitrogen.

Dr. Jocelyn Thorpe next communicated three organic papers, and Mr. Jackson Pope continued his observations on optically active tin-compounds.

## American Notes.

(By a New York Correspondent.)

**DISSOLUTION.**—The firm of Martin & Stallman, brokers, exporters, and commission-merchants, of 93 William Street, New York, has been dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. Stallman retires to return to his old place with the Stallman & Fulton Company, and Mr. G. B. Martin will continue the business at the old stand under his own name.

**AN EXCIPIENT.**—As an excipient for a mass which is to be inclosed in capsules I can recommend to readers of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* a mixture of 2 parts of honey, 1 of syrup, and 1 of S.V.R. I find it work very well as a general capsule-mass excipient. Of course, it does not answer for pills, as the evaporation of the spirit causes them to crack. Try it.

**BUSINESS CHANGE.**—Messrs. Fairchild Brothers & Foster, the manufacturers of digestive-ferments, have moved from the Rhinelander Building, at Rose and Duane Streets, where they have been quartered for several years, to their new building at the north-east corner of Washington and Laight Streets. The new building will contain the packing and shipping departments, offices, and chemical laboratory.

**THE STAMP-TAX.**—On April 19 at a meeting of the drug-trade section of the Board of Trade and Transportation, Mr. T. F. Main, Chairman of the Committee of Legislation, reported that the Committee obtained a hearing before the Ways and Means Committee of Congress on April 17, upon the Bill introduced by Boutell, of Illinois, to repeal the stamp-tax on medicinal preparations, perfumery, &c. Resolutions were adopted calling upon Congress to repeal the tax, on the ground that it is oppressive to the drug-trade.

**THE HOT-AIR TREATMENT** for rheumatism, sciatica, gout, and various other diseases, which is becoming more and more used by physicians in this city, has been applied at Bellevue Hospital recently with good effect to a doctor suffering from chronic rheumatism. The apparatus placed in Bellevue Hospital is of recent invention and allows of hot air up to the temperature of  $400^{\circ}\text{ F}$ . being applied to the whole body, while a separate apparatus is used for a single leg or arm. This hot-air treatment is a modification of the Turkish bath, from which it differs only in the patient's head being uncovered to allow of the frequent applications of damp cloths to the forehead and a liberal supply of iced water.

**THE UNDERTAKER'S LITTLE JOKE.**—A New York undertaker, named Amussen, was arrested the other day in an action brought for \$50,000 damages by Dr. Leonard Adair, of 334 West 145th Street. In his complaint the doctor alleges that the undertaker went into a grocery-store on February 7, and said to the proprietor, “Dr. Adair kills his patients, so that my rival, Tallman, can bury them. He gets a commission from him for every job he puts in his hands.” Dr. Adair does not appreciate the humour of the joke, as in his affidavit he says, “By reason of this deponent has been publicly assailed as an impostor in his profession and a dangerous criminal, as one who entertains but a murderer's regard for human life, and would set a price upon the lives of his patients.” The undertaker has engaged counsel to prove that his joke was the real article.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE is making astonishing strides in spite of the obloquy to which it is subjected. The "Scientists" are demanding recognition of their diplomas in some of the States, and in one or two instances have prepared Bills for presentation to the Legislature. At a hearing before a committee of the Illinois Legislature one statement was made claiming the cure, by a Christian Science teacher, of tooth-ache in a child, due to a cavity in a tooth. Not only did the pain leave the child, but the cavity, it was said, filled up. Another spoke of a woman who had been terribly burned, and yet, under Christian Science treatment, was well enough the next day to go out and perform her usual duties. The Christian Science course of study for the practice of medicine occupies two weeks.

OSTEOPATHY is another medical side-line which is gaining ground in the West, and in some sections the osteopaths have secured legislation granting them the same privileges as regular physicians. The regular course in the Illinois College of Osteopathy, for instance, consists of six months and no fewer than ten States have legally recognised this system of medicine. The degree granted is D.O.—doctor of osteopathy—and there are several journals devoted to the cause.

**MILITARY PHARMACISTS.**—The Manhattan Pharmaceutical Association, through its Secretary (Mr. T. J. Keenan), has sent a letter to Governor Roosevelt requesting his favourable consideration of the Cotton Bill now before the Governor awaiting his signature. The Bill amends the Military Code, by providing for each regiment of the State one military pharmacist of the rank of first lieutenant, two hospital stewards (three if the regiment consists of more than ten companies), and an hospital corps of twenty-five men, of whom one may be a sergeant and five corporals. The petition begs for "that recognition to pharmacy as a profession which is accorded to the sister sciences of dentistry and veterinary medicine." The Association asks to be heard in support of the measure, which has the earnest endorsement of the pharmaceutical organisations in the State.

**PROSPERITY RETURNED.**—About two years ago I mentioned in these notes that Hudnut's Pharmacy, at 205 Broadway, one of the largest cut-rate drug-stores in New York, had gone into the hands of the receivers, the liabilities amounting to \$30,000. It gives me great pleasure to report that this store, during the last two years, has done such a profitable business that all debts have been paid and the creditors satisfied. The business has been bought by Hegeman & Co., and Mr. Geo. Bancroft, one of the former partners in this concern, is manager. The purchase of this business will go far to enable Messrs. Hegeman to nearly control the down-town trade. The financial difficulties Hudnut's Pharmacy have recently passed through were caused by the firm opening a branch-store up town some four or five years ago, which proved unsuccessful and lost them some thousands of dollars.

**CHLORATE OF POTASH** killed a man in this city a few days ago, and the circumstance should make druggists careful when selling or recommending the article, which has caused quite a number of deaths of late years. A Hungarian, who could speak very little English, went into a New York drug-store a few days ago and asked for something for a sore throat. The druggist gave him 2 oz. of chlorate of potash, and told him to dissolve a teaspoonful in half-a-pint of water and gargle his throat every hour or so. The man misunderstood the directions and swallowed a teaspoonful every hour, with the result that he became violently ill, and a doctor was called in, who tried in vain to save the man. Chlorate of potash is habitually sold without any caution, the paralysing effect of this drug on the heart being ignored by most pharmacists, and, instead of selling it in the same way as we do borax or alum, I would suggest that full directions be printed upon labels as to its use.

**BENZINE-CALAMITIES.**—Benzine was responsible for an explosion and a small fire which occurred in Brooklyn. A lady residing in the city of churches purchased a mixture for removing grease. This was chiefly composed of benzine, and was being used to remove some spots from a silk dress. According to the lady, she had rubbed the grease vigorously in for a few minutes when suddenly she felt a slight sensation, like an electric shock, which was immediately followed by an explosion. The garment caught fire, and soon the

house was in flames. As no light was near it is suggested that, silk being a good material for exciting electricity, the rubbing had produced an electric spark, which ignited the inflammable benzine.—Another case of benzine exploding occurred on April 10, when Mr. S. Wolf, proprietor of the Columbia Pharmacy, at Amsterdam Avenue and 108th Street, was seriously injured. The detonation shook the building to its foundation, and was heard for blocks. Mr. Wolf was mixing a bug-poison, consisting chiefly of benzine, when the vapour came in contact with an adjacent gas-jet, and an explosion followed, which set fire to the store. The plate-glass windows were blown into the street in fragments, the bottles and glassware in the store being tumbled from the shelves and much damage done. Mr. Wolf was nearly blinded by the explosion, and escaped with considerable difficulty from the burning store.

**SHORTER-HOURS BILL AND ITS RESULTS.**—Governor Roosevelt on April 16 signed the Henry Bill, regulating the working-hours of pharmacists and drug-clerks in New York City. The provisions of the Bill have been frequently referred to in our columns, but the clause which seems to afford most satisfaction is that prohibiting the proprietor of any drug-store from requiring or permitting any clerk to sleep in any room or apartment in or connected with such store which does not comply with the sanitary regulations of the local Board of Health. As originally drafted, the Bill provided that the enforcement of the law should rest with the State Factory Inspector, but the Democrats had this provision struck out. The Bill is supposed to become law immediately, but no doubt a month or so will be allowed to pass before it is enforced in any respect, as the trade will be given a reasonable time to make the necessary arrangements to comply with the requirements of this new departure, and more particularly to provide the proper sleeping-quarters for night-clerks, who up to the present have, I am afraid, fared as a rule very badly in this respect. From my own personal knowledge there are in New York City many drug-stores—some really first-class firms—who have never thought it necessary to provide any better place for the night-clerk to sleep than at the back of the dispensing-counter or in the store-room at the rear of the shop. These night-clerks will thus have great reason for rejoicing, as they will now be able to retire at night to a chamber removed from the drug-store. With some of the larger firms this law will naturally cause trouble, and necessitate the employment of an extra clerk or so—"which means," so one of the leading pharmacists in New York, who employs some twenty drug-clerks, assured me, "a cut of wages."

**THE PROPRIETARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA** held a meeting in New York City on May 3, when members unanimously supported a resolution that those retail druggists throughout the country who cut prices on patent medicines are to be refused supplies of those articles. The resolution was concurred in by the unanimous vote of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association and also of the National Association of Retail Druggists. These different organisations appointed a joint committee of conference, when a report was submitted providing that wholesale dealers and jobbers shall not sell proprietary medicines to any aggressive cutter of prices, and the retailers agree not to make any substitutions. The Proprietary Association members agree to limit sales to the list of jobbers and wholesalers prepared by the joint committee. An aggressive cutter is to be determined by the retailers of a locality, and for this purpose all territory is to be divided into districts. Any retailer may be adjudged an aggressive cutter by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the retailers of a district and the wholesalers and jobbers will not be permitted to sell goods to the cutting man. At the same meeting, Mr. A. M. Hanee, of Philadelphia, presented a report of the Committee on Trade Interests which was chiefly devoted to a demand for the repeal of the Internal Revenue law so far as it applies to patent medicines, the tax being considered unnecessary at this time, as there is a large surplus in the treasury. Mr. Johnson (Fassett & Johnson, London), attended the meeting, and was asked by the Chairman (Dr. Mott Pierce) to say something in regard to the anti-cutting movement in London, when he spoke of the work of the P.A.T.A., which, he said, has not gone backward if it has not progressed during the past year.

## Westminster Wisdom.

### THE SALE OF SEEDS.

The President of the Board of Agriculture has appointed a Departmental Committee to inquire into the conditions under which agricultural seeds are at present sold, and to report whether any further measures can be taken to secure the maintenance of adequate standards of purity and germinating-power. The Earl of Onslow will be Chairman of the Committee, which also includes Sir W. T. Thiselton-Dyer, of Kew.

### THE COMPANIES BILL.

Mr. Ritchie has decided to give those who are watching this measure a long breathing-space. It was down for second reading on Monday, but Imperial Federation occupied the attention of the House, and on Tuesday Mr. Ritchie arranged to carry the companies over the Whitsuntide recess. It is put down for Monday, June 18. So that if the representatives of registered chemists and druggists now wish to explain their position to the Lord Chancellor or Mr. Ritchie before the second reading comes on, and that would be an advantage, they have the opportunity of doing so.

On Wednesday a petition from Huddersfield for alteration of the Bill was presented. Mr. Crombie is to move, on the second reading, that no Bill on this subject is satisfactory which does not repeal Clause 25 of the 1867 Companies Act. This clause deals solely with the manner in which shares are issued and held.

### VETERINARY SURGEONS BILL.

This Bill, which Dr. Farquharson and others have recently introduced in order to amend provisions of the Veterinary Surgeons Act respecting the diplomates of the Scotch Agricultural Society, was read a second time in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

### HOSPITALS AND THE RATES.

It seems an anomaly that hospitals for the sick, which have so potent an influence in relieving the rates by curing people for nothing, so that they, or many of them, quickly return to the wage-earning class, have to pay rates. The anomaly struck the House of Commons on Tuesday evening, for the members passed the following "order":—

That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the operation of the law by which hospitals and other institutions for the care and treatment of the sick, or of those afflicted in mind or body, are liable to local rates, and to report whether under any and what conditions it is for the public interest that such hospitals and institutions, or any of them, should be exempted wholly or in part from such liability in future. Also that five be the quorum, and that the Committee have power to send for persons, papers, and records.

The Committee is to consist of Mr. Bonsor, Dr. Farquharson, Mr. Hayes Fisher, Sir Cameron Gull, Sir John Maclure, Mr. McCrae, Mr. Pickersgill, Mr. Round, Mr. T. W. Russell, Mr. Tomlinson, Mr. Lawson Walton, Mr. Warr, and Sir James Woodhouse.

### REGISTRATION OF FIRMS.

The following have been appointed a Select Committee on the Bill dealing with this subject:—Mr. Michael Austin, Mr. Emmott, Sir Robert Finlay, Mr. Vicary Gibbs, Mr. H. D. Greene, Mr. Hazell, Mr. Holland, Sir Seymour King, Mr. Monk, Mr. Palmer, Sir James Rankin, Sir Albert Rollit, and Sir John Stirling-Maxwell.

### THE PETROLEUM BILL.

This Bill to raise the flash-point was the last order of the day on Wednesday, but was not reached. Mr. Kimber is to move its rejection when the second reading comes on.

### SHOPS (EARLY-CLOSING) BILL.

Lord Avebury, who, as Sir John Lubbock, has on several occasions endeavoured to get parliamentarians to make the shopkeepers' lot a happier one, had the opportunity of addressing the House of Lords on the subject on Tuesday, but the Prime Minister defeated him badly on the motion for the second reading, which only sixteen supported, while

seventy-seven voted against it. Lord Avebury's supporters were the Earls of Camperdown, Carrington, Northbrook, and Stamford; Viscounts Falkland and Peel; the Bishops of London, Salisbury, and Winchester; Lords Burghclere, Farrer, Kinnaird, Lister, Mendip, and Riddlesdale. In the course of his speech Lord Avebury said the subject had frequently been before the House of Commons during the last thirty years, and in 1886 the Shop-hours Regulation Bill, which dealt with young persons under 18 years of age, came on. A Select Committee on that Bill presented a special report suggesting the legislation on the lines of the present Early-closing Bill. The report was brought to the attention of the medical profession, and 300 London doctors signed a petition in which they described the long hours as grievously injurious to health, especially in the case of women. In the present Bill it was proposed that two-thirds of the shopkeepers in any locality should be authorised, if they thought fit, to memorialise the local authority as to closing shops at an hour agreed upon, and to provide a half-holiday. The provisions had been approved by two House of Commons Committees, and all the amendments suggested by the Home Office had been accepted. The classes affected by the Bill were the assistants, the customers, and the shopkeepers, and the Bill had the support of all three. The Bill had been considered and approved by two important congresses of shopkeepers at Nottingham and at Glasgow, and was supported by about one hundred shopkeepers' associations in all parts of the country. He firmly believed that no measure which Parliament could enact would do more to promote the well-being, health, and happiness of the people of our great cities than this Bill.

Lord Lister supported the Bill, and said medical opinion was unanimous as to the injurious effects of long shop-hours. The general convenience of the public would not be interfered with by the Bill, which altogether seemed to be conceived in the best interests of the public. (Applause.)

The Marquis of Salisbury, while agreeing that late hours in shops were a great evil, and should cease, objected to legislation on the matter, and especially to a Bill which included principles different from any which had hitherto been adopted by the Legislature. If the Bill passed it would be the first time that Parliament had interfered with the right of each grown man to dispose of his labour as he liked. (Hear, hear.) It was to be made penal for any shopkeeper to give employment to a man, however much he desired it, if that employment lasted beyond 7 o'clock in the evening. There were few members of that House who would want to shop after 7 o'clock, but there were hundreds of thousands of women in this large city who spent the day in work, and who had not time for making the requisite provision for their necessities and their household until after 6 o'clock. A Bill of that kind would exclude them from any purchases they desired to make. A woman coming home from her work had to buy meat, bread, fish, oil, coal, candles—he might go on and give an indefinite list. Did they want to shut her out from the whole of that commerce at the only time of the day when she had leisure to pursue it? He maintained that there was a far more important body than the shopkeepers and the shop-assistants—a body whose necessities were greater—those who are the consumers and frequent the shops. While recognising the philanthropy and excellent intentions of the Bill he earnestly implored the Peers not to pass it.

The Earl of Kimberley agreed on many points with the Prime Minister. It was, he said, a novel and dangerous proposal to allow small districts to determine the hours for closing shops.

The Bishop of Winchester, who supported the Bill, said that if the noble Lords who had opposed it had lived in a region immediately surrounded by the class whose rights they believed themselves to be contending for, they would have taken another view of the measure. At public meetings all over England resolutions favourable to the measure had been passed, and not a single voice had been raised against the Bill on the part of the class mentioned as likely to suffer. The present Colonial Secretary had stated that the objections to the Bill did not come from the working classes, but from well-meaning pedants and theorists, who had such a terror of Government interference that they resisted any proposal to develop the authority of the Government, even when it was desired by the great majority of the

people outside. As one who had some practical experience in the midst of the classes most concerned, he earnestly urged their Lordships to pass the Bill.

After some further discussion, Lord Avebury replied, saying that the objections to the Bill seemed to be based on the idea that it would cause all shops to be closed at 7, but that was not so. The Bill was specially designed to meet the needs of particular districts. Great stress had been laid on the interests of the consumers, but it was the local authorities who would carry the Bill into effect. Nevertheless, Lord Salisbury had no difficulty in getting sixty-five other peers to be non-contents.

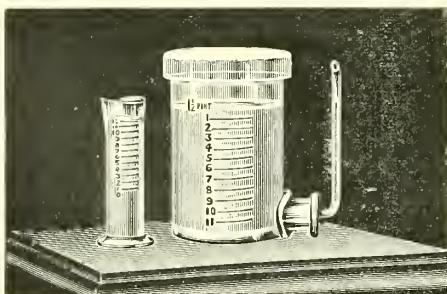
## Trade Notes.

**A SIXTY-YEAR-OLD BUSINESS.**—The *Leek Post* last week had an appreciative article on the "Central Pharmacy" which Mr. J. B. Blades, chemist and druggist, carries on at Leek, Staffordshire. The business was purchased by Mr. Christopher Blades in 1840, and on his death passed to Mr. J. B. Blades. The premises have recently been much altered by the insertion of a new shop-front, the work of local shopfitters.

**RETAIL PRICE-LIST.**—Mr. Morrey, pharmaceutical chemist, Market Drayton, sends us a copy of a new descriptive list of specialities he has just got out. The list is nicely produced and contains particulars of several prize-schemes, the object of which is to ensure the list being read and preserved by those into whose hands it falls. Mr. Morrey informs us he has recently started the manufacture of aerated waters and ginger-beer, and is finding it a profitable side-line.

**"TABLOID" CHINOSOL.**—Chinosol, the potassium salt of a compound of chinoline and sulphuric acid, has been prepared by Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C., in tabloid form for internal administration. Chinosol has a somewhat unpleasantly caustic taste, and for this reason the tabloid "chinosol" is sugar coated. The remedy has been prescribed in tuberculous diseases, and in other cases where internal antisepsis is indicated. The drug has also a febrifuge action, and its trial in typhoid fever has given encouraging results.

**THE LUPA HUMANISER** is the name which Mr. William Toogood, Heddon Street, Regent Street, W., gives to a useful piece of glass apparatus for making humanised milk at home. It consists of a graduated cylindrical jar, with movable tap, and a smaller graduated jar. In order to make humanised milk the larger jar is filled with fresh cows' milk and covered with a glass cover. If this is done at night it is found in the

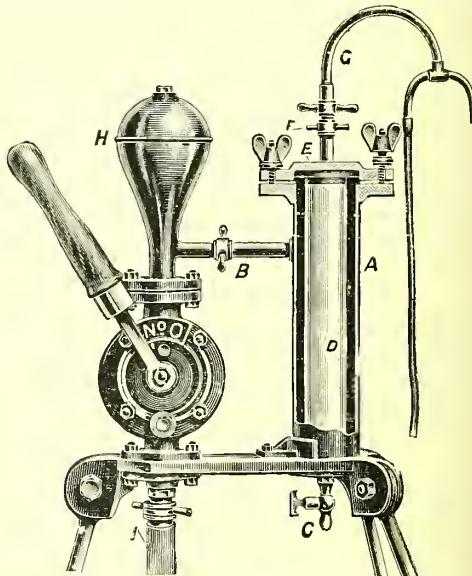


morning that nearly all the cream has risen to the surface. A definite quantity of the fat-free milk is now withdrawn by lowering the tube of the tap, the quantity of skimmed milk thus withdrawn being proportionate to the age of the child, less casein being required for very young infants than for children over six months old. Suppose five divisions of the milk be thus withdrawn, then there is added to the milk as much milk-sugar as will fill five divisions of the smaller measure, and the milk is then made up with water and thoroughly mixed. It is thus ready for use.

**CHEMISTS' DIRECTORY.**—Kelly's Directories (Limited), 182-184 High Holborn, W.C., have issued a new edition of their "Directory of Chemists and Druggists" (20s.). The

work takes a very comprehensive view of the trade, as it includes allied professions and trades, such as dentist's veterinarians, drysalters, photographers, aerated-water manufacturers, and patent-medicine vendors. The Isle of Man and Channel Islands are included in the directory for the first time. In view of the passing of the Pharmacy Act (Isle of Man), it is interesting to note that there are thirty chemists in the Isle of Man, only twelve of whom are on the Register of Chemists and Druggists, Great Britain. Druggists' sundriesmen are throughout the book called "druggists' sundrymen," otherwise we have nothing but praise for the vast amount of patient work expended in the compilation of the book.

**BERKEFELD FILTERS.**—The Berkefeld Filter Company (Limited), 121 Oxford Street, W., have just completed a large contract for the Army Medical Department of the War Office for field-service filters. At a time when the terrible mortality from enteric fever in South Africa is attracting such atten-



tion it is safe to say that the provision of a filter which will yield water free from disease-germs is of the greatest importance. We have several times referred to the principle of the Berkefeld filters; the kind supplied to the Army has the same filtering-medium, but is supplied with a semi-rotary brass pump. Each filter is designed to yield a sufficiency of filtered water for a unit of 100 men.

## New Books.

Allen, A. H. *Commercial Organic Analysis*. 3rd ed. Revisions and additions by author and Henry Leffmann. Vol. 2. Part 2: *Hydrocarbons, Petroleum and Coal-tar Products, Asphalt, Phenols, and Creosotes*. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 6. Pp. 330. 21s. (Churchill.)

Andés, L. E. *Iron-corrosion, Anti-fouling, and Anti-corrosive Paints*. Trans. from German. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ . 10s. 6d. net. (Scott Greenwood & C.)

Bayley, R. C. *Photography in Colours*. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 74. 1s. (Iliffe.)

Beringer, C., J. J. *Text-book of Assaying, for Use of those Connected with Mines*. 6th ed., enl. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 472. 10s. 6d. (Griffin.)

Brannit, W. T. *Indiarubber, Guttapercha, Balata*. Illus. 12mo. Pp. 352. 12s. 6d. net. (Low.)

Cheetham, T. A. *Elementary Chemistry*: 2nd Year's Course. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 154. 2s. (Blackie.)

*Chemistry Papers for the last Fifty Years set at the London Matric. Exam., with Model Answers to Paper of January, 1900.* 7 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 94. Swd. 1s. 6d. (Clive.)

Delbos, L. *Metric System: Practical Manual*. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 144. 2s. (Methuen.)

## Personalities.

MR. GEORGE EADE, pharmaceutical chemist, Goswell Road, E.C., has been elected Chairman of the United Dispensaries Committee of the Holborn Board of Guardians.

MR. CHARLES THOMAS WARD, chemist and dentist, of Southwick, Sussex, was at the Easter Vestry unanimously elected people's churchwarden for the eleventh year in succession.

MR. H. TREMBATH, of Johannesburg, who with Mrs. Trembath and family has been staying at Penzance since the war broke out, sails by the *Dunottar Castle* on May 26 bound for the Transvaal.

MRS. HARRIET PARKES (widow of the late Mr. John Prior Parkes, pharmaceutical chemist) has, we are glad to learn, been elected second on the list to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, obtaining 5,910 votes. This result, we are told, was brought about by the prominence which Mrs. Parkes's claims received in the *C. & D.*

MR. JOHN TAYLOR, of Bolton, is bringing a varied experience to bear upon his duties as pharmaceutical councillor. He was once a junior assistant in the Bolton Public Library, and was afterwards two years in a solicitor's office, at that time passing the Preliminary examination of the incorporated law Society. Law was his bent, but he had to give it up in favour of the drug-trade, serving the statutory three years with Mr. William Blain, pharmaceutical chemist. When the time came for negotiating the Minor Mr. Louis Siebold instructed him, but he got most of his botany from Dr. Norris Wolfenden, the eminent throat-specialist. Mr. Taylor is a good speaker, and not afraid to speak either.

AMONGST our callers this week have been Mr. D. Rankin and Mr. Fred Cheshire, pharmaceutical chemists in a suburb of Melbourne, Vic. Mr. Cheshire is a Colchester man, and had the first of his experience in pharmacy there, but qualified in the colonies. Mr. Rankin is a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and an ardent supporter of the movement for pharmaceutical reciprocity. He was formerly an assistant with Messrs. Brown Brothers, of Glasgow, and has been in Australia during the past nineteen years. We have also had a call from Mr. N. L. Usher, a young Victorian pharmacist, who is visiting the Old Country for the first time. These gentlemen make the subscribers' floor at 42 Cannon Street, E.C., their place of call while in London.

THE Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland has, with the approval of her Majesty, conferred the honour of knighthood upon Thomas W. Robinson, Esq., chairman of Kingstown Urban District Council. We congratulate Mr. Robinson on this

honour. He is a pharmaceutical chemist of Ireland, and has acted both as an examiner and member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. He is a thorough pharmacist and a successful business-man, being one of the directors of Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson (Limited), an amalgamation of several of the leading pharmacies in Dublin and district. Mr. Robinson has long taken an active part

in public affairs, and as the chief representative for Kingstown was the first official to receive the Queen on her recent visit to Ireland, a duty which he performed in a most graceful manner.



## Marriage.

LOTHIAN—GIBSON.—At Milton Parish Church, Glasgow, on May 18, by the Rev. John Ronald Macgregor, B.D., John Lothian, Principal of the Glasgow School of Pharmacy, to Georgina, second daughter of Mr. Victor Gibson, St. Andrews.

## Deaths.

BARRACLOUGH.—On May 11, Mr. William Barraclough, chemist and druggist, late of Mortomley, Ecclesfield. Aged 64.

GREEN.—Mr. Josiah Green, who has died in Toronto at the age of 72, was apprenticed to Mr. Capper, chemist, Blackheath, Kent, and was in business at Lee before he went out to Toronto in 1872.

GREENHALGH.—At Bolton, on May 17, Mr. Edmund Parkinson Greenhalgh, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 27. The late Mr. Greenhalgh was a son of Councillor E. P. Greenhalgh, J.P., and was articled to his uncle, Mr. Joseph Hamer, Bradshawgate, whose business he took over about three months ago. Since he sold the business, however, Mr. Hamer has attended almost daily, and on the day of the death he was in the shop when Mr. Greenhalgh went to an upper store-room, and shortly afterwards was found by the errand-boy lying dead on the floor with a bottle of prussic acid by his side. A coroner's jury on May 21 returned a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane. The death of Mr. Greenhalgh was a great shock to the members of the trade in Bolton. He had passed his examinations with credit and without entirely withdrawing from the service of Mr. Hamer. He was above the average in ability, and was of a very genial and cheerful disposition. He was a general favourite, and his death has grieved a very large circle of friends. Bolton chemists sent a beautiful floral anchor to place on the coffin, with the message, "With deep regret at the loss of comrade."

HOOPER.—The death is reported of Mr. Edward Hooper, pharmacist, Toronto, at the age of 92. He was born in London, and in 1832, at 24 years of age, went to Canada, starting in the wholesale trade in Dundas, Ontario. Afterwards he went to Toronto and became the founder of the Hooper Company drug-business. He amassed a fortune of over \$20,000.

HUDSON.—On May 21, at 111 Prescot Road, Fairfield, aged 39, Mr. Thomas Herbert Hudson, chemist and druggist. Mr. Hudson was a member of the Council of the Liverpool Chemists' Association.

HUME.—At Middlesborough, on May 17, Mr. William Andrew Hume, chemist and druggist. The late Mr. Hume was one of the oldest inhabitants of Middlesborough, having carried on business in the town for the past thirty years. He was a native of Collingham, near Wetherby, where his father was schoolmaster. He was an assistant when the Pharmacy Act came into force, and passed the modified examination in 1870, and for a year or two carried on business in Beckett Street, Leeds. Since then, however, he had been in business in Cannon Street, Middlesborough, retiring about twelve months ago. His generosity and general good nature earned him widespread esteem and respect.

LOVETT.—Mr. John Lovett, whose death we recorded last week, was in his 70th year. He would have completed his half-century of service with Messrs. Dakin Brothers in October next.

REID.—At Sandbank, on May 8, Mr. George C. Reid, late of the Burnbank Apothecaries' Company. Aged 34.

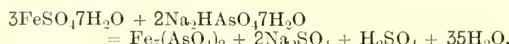
ROBERTSON.—The death on May 20 is reported by cable of Dr. Alan Robertson, proprietor of the Penang dispensary, at Penang. The dispensary was one of the best-known pharmacies in the East.

TITLEY.—On May 8, Mr. Thomas Titley, chemist and druggist, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, W. Aged 58.

## Arsenates of Iron and Sodium.

By THOS. S. BARRIE, Ph.C.

THREE salts of arsenic acid have been proposed for use in medicine—viz., sodium, potassium, and iron arsenates. Of these the first two are obtainable of uniform composition, but the last is never twice the same. From the smallness of the dose ( $\frac{1}{16}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  gr.) of iron arsenate it is evident that the medicinal activity of the salt must be referred to the arsenic oxide which it contains, that of the iron being negligible. In the Pharmacopœia a formula for the preparation of iron arsenate is given by the interaction of ferrous sulphate and sodium arsenate in presence of sodium bicarbonate. The reaction may be represented by the following equation:—



The acid formed simultaneously with the iron arsenate dissolves the latter partly, and bicarbonate is added to neutralise the free acid and so cause all the iron arsenate to be precipitated. The amount of sodium arsenate prescribed by the B.P. is excessive, and the writer has satisfied himself that  $20\frac{1}{2}$  oz. is sufficient for the complete precipitation of the iron. Iron arsenate is white when first formed, but absorbs oxygen with astonishing rapidity, becoming green and ultimately brown.

The Pharmacopœia requires that "each gramme of the salt dissolved in an excess of sulphuric acid diluted with water should not cease to give a blue precipitate with solution of potassium ferricyanide until at least 6·7 c.c. of the volumetric solution of potassium bichromate has been added, corresponding to nearly  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of hydrous or 10 per cent. of anhydrous ferrous arsenate." Bichromate is used for the estimation of the ferrous oxide, and the last part of the foregoing paragraph should read "corresponding to nearly 5 per cent. of ferrous oxide." To say the salt contains "10 per cent. of anhydrous ferrous arsenate" is no doubt correct, but it is very misleading, and few would imagine that there is from 5 to 8 times as much arsenic oxide in combination with ferric as there is with ferrous oxide.

Little work seems to have been done on iron arsenate, and a process for the estimation of the arsenic oxide ( $\text{As}_2\text{O}_5$ ) is required. I have tried two processes—(1) By precipitating as ammonium arsenio-molybdate, and calculating the  $\text{As}_2\text{O}_5$  from the weight of the precipitate obtained; (2) by precipitating as magnesium ammonium arsenate, and titrating this with standard uranium solution. The first method is an application of Stock's process for the estimation of phosphoric pentoxide in the ash of milk, &c.—viz., by precipitating and weighing at once as ammonium phospho-molybdate. When applied to iron arsenate, the precipitate was found to be always contaminated with molybdic acid, and so the method was abandoned. The second process was more successful. It is a modification of Joulie's process, as described in Sutton's "Analysis"—1 gramme of iron arsenate dissolved in a little nitric acid sufficient to thoroughly peroxidise is treated with a solution of 5 grammes citric acid, containing 1 gramme magnesium carbonate, and 30 c.c. strong ammonia; total volume not exceeding 100 c.c. After twelve hours the crystals are collected, washed, and dissolved in dilute hydrochloric acid, which is first made slightly alkaline with ammonia-water, and then acidulated with acetic acid. The solution so obtained is made up to 200 c.c., and titrated in the usual way. (N.B.—If the crystals are coloured, owing to contamination with iron, they are purified by dissolving in a little dilute hydrochloric acid, and adding an aqueous solution of 1 gramme citric acid and 10 c.c. strong ammonia total volume not exceeding 30 c.c. After twelve hours the crystals are collected, and treated as before.)

The process having been proved reliable by experimenting with sodium arsenate, four commercial samples of iron arsenate were obtained and submitted to examination. The following

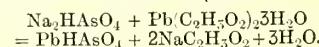
table shows the percentage of arsenic oxide ( $\text{As}_2\text{O}_5$ )—mean of two estimations—and ferrous oxide found in each:—

Sample	Percentage of $\text{As}_2\text{O}_5$	Percentage of $\text{FeO}$
1	34·2	3·65
2	42·7	4·46
3	45·05	4·1
4	39·36	5·04

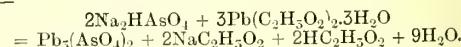
From these results two deductions can be made—first, that commercial arsenate of iron is of variable composition; and, second, that the percentage of ferrous oxide is no indication of the percentage of arsenic anhydride in the sample.

There are two sodium arsenates mentioned in the B.P., one being called simply "sodium arsenate" ( $\text{Na}_2\text{HAsO}_4$ ), and the other "crystallised sodium arsenate" ( $\text{Na}_2\text{HAsO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ). This fine distinction is very confusing in practice. In the manufacture of iron arsenate the Pharmacopœia simply directs "sodium arsenate" to be taken. No one would think of using a specially dried salt in this connection; further, it is not intended. Under "Liquor Sodii Arsenatis," "sodium arsenate" is again directed to be taken; but here the crystallised salt is implied, for it must be "recently rendered anhydrous."

The monograph on sodium arsenate should be rewritten, because, in the first place, sodium arsenate, as defined on page 291 of the B.P., is the anhydrous salt. What "arsenate of sodium (hydrous), Brit. Phar.," means as a sub-title I will not attempt to say, or what it is there for I cannot imagine, seeing that it is not stated to be a synonym. Secondly, the anhydrous salt is directed to be prepared from the hydrous by "exposing" the latter "to a temperature of 300° F. (148·9° C.)" without indicating percentage of weight lost. Thirdly, "1 gramme of sodium arsenate, B.P., 1898, requires 2·03 lead acetate for complete precipitation." This calculation is based on the conception that the precipitated lead arsenate has the formula  $\text{PbHAsO}_4$ , thus—



This conception is wrong, the reaction being the formation of lead arsenate,  $\text{Pb}_3(\text{AsO}_4)_2$ , sodium acetate, and acetic acid—



On this account 1 gramme anhydrous sodium arsenate requires 3·05 grammes lead acetate for complete precipitation.

The use of a variable substance like lead acetate for the estimation of such a potent medicine as sodium arsenate may be defended on the ground of convenience, but when accuracy is desired the use of volumetric uranium nitrate is to be recommended (*vide* Sutton). The best way to meet the object which I have advanced would be to have two monographs—one for the crystallised salt and one for the dried, or to recognise the latter only, and prescribe it in all formulas.

West of Scotland School of Pharmacy,  
Glasgow, April 14.

## At the Dispensing-counter.

### On Some Dangerous Prescriptions.

By GEORGE ROE.

PREPARATIONS of strychnine and nux vomica have always given a certain amount of trouble in dispensing, and those of the present Pharmacopœia, on account of their altered conditions, have been the cause of many dispensing notes.

The solution of strychnine, in consequence of its now being simply a solution of the hydrochloride, and not the acid solution that it always was previous to 1898, gives many unlooked-for and dangerous reactions. The tincture of nux vomica is now of double alkaloidal strength and contains

fatty and resinous matters; these cause sometimes some difference in the appearance of mixtures, and therefore doubt in the minds of patients who have had such prescriptions dispensed with the tincture of the 1885 Pharmacopoeia. There is also the question of dose: many prescribers even now are not aware of its increased strength, and when the full dose is given it may, after a time, produce toxic symptoms. The same applies to many prescriptions written before the present edition came into use.

The dangerous deposits of strychnine and compounds of strychnine which occur in some of the cases already published form an object-lesson of the responsible position which dispensers of medicine occupy—a fact which cannot be too much advertised in these times when so much encouragement is given to unskilled labour.

There is often some doubt when prescribing or dispensing strychnine and nux vomica with anything but articles having an acid reaction, and frequently the change, if any, does not take place for some hours, or even days.

The question of incompatibility is a vexed one, and at times places the dispenser in an awkward position. The tendency to write incompatible prescriptions is likely to increase, and as far as my experience goes many of the young medical men know exceedingly little of prescribing, and are only too glad to avail themselves of the ready-made physic which is brought before their notice. In discussing incompatibility with them they often become unnecessarily uneasy respecting their ability to prescribe, therefore it is well to be explicit in what is said on the subject, and not make, if possible, sweeping statements respecting the probability of one ingredient in a prescription being absolutely out of harmony with the others, when, as a matter of fact, in many cases a little rearranging of items will produce a compound in every way satisfactory. Personally I prefer not to discuss the matter more than I can help, but rather endeavour to understand the intention of the prescriber, and then proceed to overcome the difficulty according to the best principles of dispensing. Take, for example, the question of strychnine and sal volatile. It is stated they are incompatible; true, but in ordinary doses in the usual quantity of water they are perfectly safe, whereas when the mixture is much concentrated a deposition of strychnine is certain to take place. Tincture of nux vomica and sal volatile have frequently been reported to give trouble, but as far as my experience goes I have never seen any deposition of crystals either in weak or strong doses: there is certainly a separation of the fatty matter, and much separation when dispensed with caustic alkalies, but not necessarily of an alkaloidal nature. Many cases must of necessity be reported and corrected, but as a general rule the less the prescriber is approached respecting his faults in this direction, the more sincere and lasting will be the friendship which should exist between him and the pharmacist.

It is frequently imagined that preparations of an alkaloidal nature cannot or should not be dispensed with alkalies, and yet such combinations find much favour with medical men. Take, for example, gentian, soda, and nux vomica or even solution of strychnine, sal volatile and solution of strychnine or nux vomica, quinine and ammonia, and many others. In all these cases the bulk of water is so great that, should the alkaloid be precipitated, it is redissolved. There is certainly much danger when the mixtures contain large quantities of these powerfully toxic remedies.

Solution of arsenic (alkaline) and strychnine occur frequently in prescriptions, and, as "Squire" observes, are incompatible. There is, however, a point up to which their combination is possible, although not advisable. It is better to substitute in every case the acid solution of arsenic.

Another favourite is mercuric chloride, potassium iodide, and strychnine. There can be no question about the incompatibility of this when certain doses are prescribed, but it is possible to satisfy the wishes of the writer by suitable dilution. In the following—

Liq. hyd. perch.	...	...	...	3ss.
Pot. iodidi	...	...	...	gr. x.
Liq. strychn.	...	...	...	mijj.
Aq. dest. ad	...	...	...	3j.

—the precipitate is immediately re-dissolved, but, if double these doses be ordered in the same volume of water, a dangerous heavy double compound of strychnine and

mercury is thrown down. Bromide of potassium is frequently ordered with strychnine, and in ordinary doses gives no trouble. The following was made up, and large quantities of acicular crystals were formed. This mixture has caused death on one occasion within recent years (see "Art of Dispensing, page 192):—

Pot. brom.	...	...	...	5j.
Liq. strychn.	...	...	...	mijx.
Aq. dest.	...	...	...	3j.

Iodide of potassium reacts similarly, but in small doses it does not cause any deposition. The following, after a few hours, deposited crystals in abundance:—

Pot. iodidi	...	...	...	gr. xxx.
Liq. strychn.	...	...	...	mijx.
Aq. ad	...	...	...	3j.

Although it is possible to dispense small doses of sal volatile and strychnine, such is not the case with larger doses or in concentrated "drops." The mixture below deposited many crystals:—

Liq. strychniae	...	...	...	3ss.
Spt. am. co.	...	...	...	3ss.
Aq. dest. ad	...	...	...	3j.

A small quantity of potassium carbonate will cause decomposition of strychnine, but the potassium and sodium bicarbonates can be freely dispensed without any such result. Ammonium carbonate, even in large doses, does not affect solution of strychnine.

In every well-conducted pharmacy distilled water is always available and extensively used in dispensing, but in those places where the demand exceeds the supply it is well to remember that in most mixtures containing alkaloids the liability to chemical change is much greater in the presence of tap-water than distilled. This is well illustrated when one tries to make solution of strychnine or morphine with tap-water: nearly all the alkaloid is precipitated after a few hours.

Many cases of incompatibility might be quoted from the dispensing-column of this journal in which the use of tap-water has been the cause of the correspondents' trouble, also of incompatibility with mixtures containing strychnine. Some of them are used in this note which, I hope, will, to a certain extent, give confidence to dispensers when called upon to compound preparations of strychnine with alkalies or alkaline preparations.

## Photographic Notes.

By a Pharmaceutical Camerist.

### PYRAXE

is the shortened name for the "Axe Brand Pyrogallic Acid" made by J. Hauff & Co. Pyraxe is crystalline, and takes up much less space than the sublimed form of pyrogallic acid—a pound can be put into one of the ounce-bottles of the older form. Fuerst Brothers, 17 Philpot Lane, E.C., are the London agents for "Pyraxe."

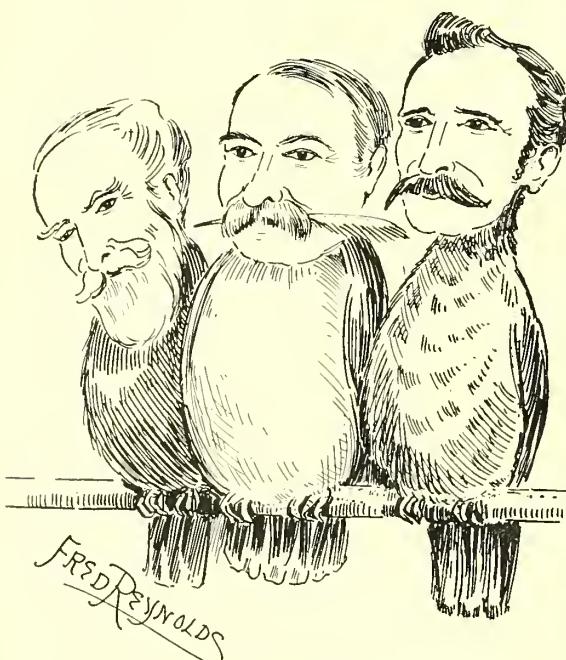
### TONING CARBON TRANSPARENCIES.

It has been observed by Dr. E. Vogel that if an unalumed carbon transparency is soaked in logwood decoction some of the logwood is fixed, the oxide of chromium in the print acting as the mordant. Following up this hint, Dr. Vogel has found that soluble indulin and some other aniline colours give similar effects, and place an additional means of altering the colour of carbon transparencies within the reach of carbon-workers.

### KEEPING QUALITIES OF DRY PLATES.

The Photographic Society of Philadelphia recently published the result of some experiments made by a Technical Committee on the condition of three boxes of plates purchased fifteen years ago. The results show that the plates had lost considerably in sensitiveness, but that the plates which were packed without contact with cardboard or paper were still useful. In cases where cardboard had laid in contact with the surface of the plates they were hopelessly fogged. For all that, it is the best policy to only sell fresh plates, and at the end of the season dispose of any remaining over, at a loss even.

## The Pharmaceutical Aviary.



### The Sanguinovus Birds.

A rare variety of *Chownsilon pharmaceuticus*, a species which segregates in Bloomsbury. Has been known to breed in Britain, but hitherto has been unable to rear with certainty any fledglings yearly, owing to the depredations of the cuckoo birds. These are young birds, three of a nest of ten hatched in April of the present year. They fledged on May 17. The first bird on the twig has a mustard-coloured breast and anti-cutting wings. The middle bird is a high flyer, and is eager to attack the hawks that molest the species. The third is a powerful chirper.



### The Magnesia Bird.

This is a very wise old bird, and knows all about Parliament, committees, and flesh brushes. It is great at finance and things. At one time it was chief of all the

birds. It is very fond of flying to Switzerland and hopping from one mountain peak to another. It gives good dinners and talks well—in fact, it is a most sociable old bird, and greatly respected by the other birds. It likes all the other birds to take a little magnesia in their drinking-water, but prefers soda itself. It has a peculiar way of folding its claws, as here depicted, when it is talking.

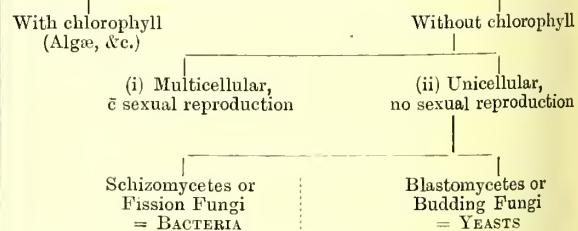
## More Notes

BY THE IRRESPONSIBLE CRITIC.

I WAS gratified to observe that all the evil placed at my door in the matter of the "Square" library resulted in some slight good, inasmuch as an indirect recognition was contained in the annual report of the Pharmaceutical Society. Stubborn statistics, it is said, prove that it is not desirable to keep the library open in the evening. There the matter must rest for the present. A very prominent speaker at the annual meeting, in the course of a masterly harangue, remarked that he was not the President, and, towards the end of the proceedings, I really wasn't quite sure in my own mind about the Vice's position.

EXAMINATIONS AND THE SUBJECTS THEREOF.—Judging from the recent prohibitive pass-lists it would appear that any student about to enter for the Minor at five guineas would save money and disappointment by taking Mr. Punch's mono-syllabic advice to young men about to marry—"Don't." Wait until the ten-guinea epoch—less money, examination hard; more money, examination soft. As to the subjects of examination I have two opinions, which I specially desire to express. The first, I observed a year or two back, is shared by Sir James C. Browne, and it is to the effect that bacteriology should form a part of the pharmacist's training. Perchance some professor will remark that students learn all about

THALLOPHYTA (lower plants)



But terms and classification will not bring in bread and butter.

The pharmacist should, in my opinion, have a general practical knowledge of pathogenic organisms; be competent to prepare culture-media; understand all the principles and methods of sterilising-apparatus, instruments, and dressings; possess a general acquaintance with staining, and know, for example, exactly what is meant by Gram's method. He should be able to detect *Bacillus tuberculosis* in sputum, urine, and milk; to detect *tinea fungi* on hair; to find *Micrococcus gonorrhœæ* in pus; to recognise the *Diplococci* of pneumonic sputum; and stain the beautiful *flagella* of *B. typhosus*. He should also be able to do the enchanting Widal's reaction (fresh typhoid broth his sundries house could possibly supply, or, failing that, he could at any rate obtain it from the future special Bacteriological Department of the Society's future Research Laboratory); he should be able to produce the Indol reaction, and, if need be, supply the medical man with sterile diphtheritic swabs, inoculate a serum-tube from the scraping, distinguish true and pseudo diphtheria bacilli—but here, I admit, I am going too far. To sum up, therefore, the chemist and druggist, taking an interest in bacteriology, would gain the confidence of his professional clients, and it would do him personally a million times more good than selling over the counter a box of proprietary pills. If anything should be curtailed in the pharmaceutical examinations, it is the "science of names"—botany. It contains little bread and no butter; but, there is some for me in a carriage customer. More about exams. next week.

## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

THE COUNCIL-ELECTION of last week gave a very distinct answer from the electorate to the leading question submitted for arbitrament. No election is ever contested on a single issue only. Personal and other considerations always influence votes. But I do not remember any Council-election when there have been two divergent lines of policy so distinctly offered to the constituency, and where the choice of one has been so clearly marked. However slim the candidates may have been on other points, most of them declared their views on the company-pharmacy question with sufficient candour. The issue raised was whether advantage should be taken of the opportunity offered by the Lord Chancellor to deal with the question by diplomatic intervention, or whether, the Government's clause being admittedly an unsatisfactory one, it should be simply and doggedly opposed. The latter was the prevailing official policy; it was endorsed by nearly all the provincial associations which had discussed it; and its advocates went to battle with the special blessing of Dewsbury and Bradford upon them. The alternative policy was, perhaps, misunderstood; it was certainly misrepresented in many quarters, and particularly by a group of generous pharmacists who devoted a portion of their superfluous wisdom to the enlightenment of their weaker brethren. But the pharmacists who speak and write are, after all, an insignificant fraction of those who think, and, after making all allowances for other influences, the reply of the electors on the company question was unmistakable. Let us take stock.

\* \* \* \*

MR. HILLS, whose high position on the poll was generally expected, owes, no doubt, a good many votes to his personal popularity and to the reputation of his name. But it may fairly be assumed that his recent attempt to induce the Council to take some more intelligent position than merely that of blockers counted for some hundreds of notches in his favour. Dr. Symes, who came second on the poll, is himself a company-pharmacists, and presumably does not wish to extinguish himself. Mr. Wootton stated that, if elected, he should do what one member could do to press the policy of taking advantage of the opportunity which the Companies Bill offers to secure justice for qualified chemists. Mr. Storror, who seconded the motion in the Council to simply oppose the clause, has since declared that, if re-elected, he would vote for a compromise. Mr. Cooper considered that this is an opportune moment for securing legislation relating to company-pharmacy. Mr. Cross and Mr. Taylor, the candidates who came sixth and seventh on the list, were the only two elected who had announced their approval of simple opposition to the clause, and Mr. Cross was one of those who voted in the Council in favour of the attempt to amend it. Of the ten not elected Mr. Gibbons and Mr. Morrison were not clear on the issue, Mr. Gifford posed as the prophet of "No compromise," and Mr. Bateson was one of the Council minority. But Messrs. Warren, Grose, Currie, Campkin, Gostling, and Pickering declared for opposition and no attempt at amendment. So that, leaving aside Messrs. Symes, Cross, Taylor, Gibbons, and Morrison, whose opinions were more or less doubtful, there were five candidates who might be considered pledged to an attempt at amendment of the clause. Four of these were elected. There were seven committed to a policy of opposition and no compromise, and these were all defeated.

THE RESEARCH LABORATORY discussion last week seems to have satisfied Mr. Butt, whose discontent must have been very superficial. Compare what he demanded with what he got, and it will appear that there can hardly be a more complaisant person in London than he. He wanted the Research Laboratory to be "reconstituted," and placed under the "direction" of the professors of chemistry and pharmacy, and under the "control" of a special committee. I am not quite sure of what he meant by this dual management; I am only quoting his resolutions. He would not be satisfied with a mere "furbishing up"; he claimed that all the work done in the Laboratory should be reported first of all to the Pharmaceutical Society; and he was indignant at the idea that the Laboratory should become the handmaiden of the Medical Council and be subsidised by that body. Mr. Carteighe told Mr. Butt, in reply, that there was practically no Research Laboratory now; "our research-work is now merged in the schools." He insisted that the Council and not the professors should have the entire control and direction of it, and that Mr. Butt's suggestion (whatever it was) was absurd, ridiculous, and the result of want of knowledge. The work that was being done was what the Medical Council asked for, and the Medical Council were going to pay for it. Lastly, he defended with some warmth the publication of the results secured elsewhere than at their own meetings or in their own journals. That is to say, he uncompromisingly opposed at least four of Mr. Butt's contentions, and that gentleman's response was that Mr. Carteighe had not said one word with which he disagreed, and that his explanation was perfectly satisfactory; which only shows that Mr. Butt must be a very nice man to have a debate with.

\* \* \* \*

MR. BUTT, who recalled the fact that he was a member of the Council when the Research Laboratory first came under discussion, exercised a wise discretion in touching lightly on the not too glorious past of that institution. But Mr. Carteighe, who was in fighting trim, was not as grateful as he should have been for this reticence. Forgetting Mr. Giles, who really suggested the idea of the laboratory in 1884, he took the responsibility and the glory on himself, and was evidently prepared to insist on the success of his scheme if its record had been more definitely challenged. Had not the University of London recognised their school and their professors, he asked, and had not the Medical Council come to them and asked them to undertake work in anticipation of the next Pharmacopoeia? Were not these substantial gains? Perhaps; but there was not a scrap of evidence to show that the University Commissioners had been in the smallest degree influenced by the Research Laboratory, and, indeed, they would have been rather soft if they had been, considering that when they drafted their scheme it could hardly be said that the Research Laboratory had any more than a nominal existence. The Medical Council's recognition of the Laboratory is almost as shadowy. They got the assistance of a number of painstaking pharmacists on their last Pharmacopoeia; they wanted the same again, and on the suggestion of the two pharmaceutical representatives appointed to confer with their committee, they accepted the proposal that certain of the work should be done in the so-called Research Laboratory. That is all that Mr. Carteighe's explanation amounts to.

\* \* \* \*

IS NOT THAT SOMETHING? he asks. Well, you may buy even royal favours too dearly. Even if the influence of the nominal Research Laboratory on the University Commissioners and on the General Medical Council has been all that Mr. Carteighe suggests, there will be a considerable margin left between the credit and debit sides of the account. Mr. Butt says the Laboratory has cost the Society 3,500*l.* in hard cash. For its accommodation some 10,000*l.* was spent on the buildings in Galen Place. Will the hydroxy-di-bromo-camphor-sulphonic acid and its relatives, the progeny of the Laboratory, ever make the two columns balance?

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**The Next Move.**

THE Pharmaceutical Council election has cleared the air, and brings us back to the real issue of the contest—What shall be done in regard to the Companies Bill now before Parliament? The electors had placed before them by the official party the argument that it was necessary to return

the whole of the retiring members of the Council in order to defeat the intent of the quartette to bargain with the Government on the company-question. Appropriating Mr. Lord Gifford's very own thunder this official party cried, "No compromise," and they have been beaten. Three of the negotiation quartette have been returned, and a fourth missed a seat by a single vote, while of the old councillors returned the leader in place and experience, Mr. Walter Hills, has resolutely fought in the Council for negotiation; Mr. Storrar holds himself free to "support the policy of control," and Mr. Cross by his vote at the Council-meeting in March is bound to support any fresh movement in the direction of securing a settlement of the company-question on the Companies Bill. Two of the three new councillors (Messrs. Cooper and Wootton) are definitely pledged to the same course, and Mr. John Taylor, the third, although he has given no such pledge, has shown himself to be a broad-minded candidate, and open to accept any reasonable means for getting this question settled. Apart from him, however, five of the seven candidates returned are known to the electors as men who are opposed to the Council's March resolution declaring uncompromising opposition to Clause 2 of the Companies Bill. We therefore get back to the amendment then put by Mr. Walter Hills, which was in the following terms:—

That the Watch Committee be instructed to secure, if possible, the amendment to Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, in the direction of securing to qualified persons the exclusive use of their titles and such regulation of companies, which will, to their satisfaction, provide that persons controlling the business of a chemist and druggist will be qualified; and that in the event of their failing to secure either of these objects they be instructed to oppose the whole clause.

In consideration of the fact that 2,761 of the 3,662 votes recorded were cast for Mr. Hills, the formulator of this line of policy, it is obviously his duty to bring it forward again at the earliest opportunity—that is, at the Council-meeting on June 13. He can do this with the consciousness that the majority of the electors clearly approved of his policy by voting for him and giving him a better backing than the old Council provided; also with the hope that some, at least, of those who remained on the Council will not oppose the expressed desire of the electorate to take the fullest advantage of this opportunity for reform, instead of blindly opposing it. The members of the Society are, we think, entitled to expect something more than hope from the sitting councillors. It is for convenience in transacting the business of the Society that a sectional system of election has been authorised, and it would be fatal to all progress if the section remaining in office were to consider it their right to ignore the manifest desires of the electorate when they have the opportunity of declaring these by their votes. In that view we consider that this is scarcely the time to count whether this party or that has a working majority, but it is the proper time for reconsidering, with the view to immediate action, the policy formulated by the man who was returned at the head of the poll. It is, perhaps, too much to hope that the bitterness which characterised the recent contest can be turned into sweetness before the next Council-meeting, but there was ample evidence that the candidates were working in the best interests of pharmacy, and there is need now to secure the best possible amendment of the Government proposal for regulating pharmacy-companies. What that should be may be left an open question in the terms of Mr. Hills's amendment. If the integrity of the title is secured, that will be so much territory regained, and all else secured will be so much gain and not loss; for the fact still remains that the

personal qualification of the pharmacist in his personal relation to the public is the doctrine which the founders of the Pharmaceutical Society promulgated as the basis of his status in society. This doctrine is not threatened by any method of controlling pharmacy-companies, but their perpetuation on the present lines threatens to undermine the qualification-system by permitting unqualified individuals to avoid the statutory examinations and assume the statutory titles in virtue of provisions of the Companies Acts which were never intended to confer qualifications otherwise provided for.

## Pharmacy Abroad.

A SHORT time since we called attention to several bits of pharmaceutical legislation and prospective reform which our *confrère* in other climes had under way, and now we are able to report some progress in them. The superabundance of legislation in the United States is gradually being condensed, and valuable concessions have been made to pharmacists in New York. The Shorter Hours Bill for drug-clerks, for the passing of which the New York Legislature has been importuned for the past four or five years, has at length become law, and has received the universal approbation of the American pharmaceutical press. It has resulted in a movement to close the drug-stores in that city at an early hour. A New York correspondent informs us that Mr. Clarence O. Bigelow, President of the Board of Pharmacy, and proprietor of a large drug-store in New York, is responsible for this new departure. Postcards were sent to the proprietors of drug-stores in the Eighth, Ninth, and Fifteenth wards, which bore the following statement:—

As the law regulating the working-hours of the drug-clerks in this city is now in force, requiring a readjustment of their hours of service, the time appears opportune for an early-closing movement throughout the entire district. To this end it is suggested that the pharmacists of the above wards take the initiative and close at 10 P.M. from May 1 to October 1, and at 9 P.M. during the other months of the year.

The principal reason for inaugurating this early-closing movement is to do away with the necessity of employing additional clerks, which would have to be done under the new law if the stores are to be kept open late at night. The pharmacists say they cannot afford additional expense, and there is no reason why people should not be educated up to buying their drugs during the day or early in the evening. It is stated there are not as many emergency-calls in the night as in past years, because the physicians generally carry emergency-remedies. So far the movement is confined to a small section of New York city, but it is hoped to extend it, and our correspondent expresses a "doubt from past experience whether it will be anything but a failure." Anyway, the movement is interesting as a concrete example of what follows when the conditions of labour in pharmacy are controlled by law. Something like this may be adopted in this country (for Lord Salisbury's opposition will push it along), and the early-closing movement deserves success as the logical outcome of the Drug-clerks' Shorter Hours Act.

In these days of reciprocity-advocacy it is well to recall the fact that each State in the North American Union is a law unto itself, and pharmacy-law is consequently a much more complex thing than in the British Empire. A step towards uniformity has been made in New York, where last month a United Pharmacy Law for the State was passed and ratified by Governor Roosevelt. This Act combines into one three boards of pharmacy which have hitherto been operating in the State. The measure is considered generally to be satisfactory, and will tend to the better-

ment of pharmacy. It provides for a State Pharmacy Board of fifteen members, divided into three branch-boards of five members each. The Board has powers (besides those of examining) for regulating the practice of pharmacy, the sale of poisons, the character and standard of drugs and medicines, and to regulate the labour-hours of drug-store employés. The Act requires that the actual name of the proprietor or proprietors of every place of business shall be displayed upon the shop-sign, and every proprietor of a wholesale or retail store will be held responsible for the quality of all drugs sold and dispensed, except those in original packages and the ordinary patent or proprietary medicines. Physicians are exempt from the Act, unless they keep open stores as pharmacists.

European pharmaceutical movements also go forward. The Denmark Pharmaceutical Assistants' Union want thirty-eight new pharmacies, and the Minister of Justice has promised to do what he can in the matter. Denmark, we may explain, is one of those places where the highly-educated pharmacist has his trade interests looked after by the State, hence to ensure a living to them the number of pharmacies is limited by law. But that cuts two ways, and many who qualify find after they have done so, as the Union's existence tells, that they may have to wait half a lifetime before a pharmacy becomes vacant. So protection has its drawbacks. In the neighbouring country of Holland pharmacists' assistants appear to have taken a leaf out of the book of those in their old-time colony, New Amsterdam (as New York was once called) for, at a meeting of Dutch pharmaceutical assistants held recently in Amsterdam, it was decided to continue the agitation for the better regulation of working-hours, and it was also decided to establish a journal for the Society, a situation bureau, and several district associations. From Norway we learn that the Director of the State Medical Department has presented to the Board of the Pharmaceutical Society of Norway a new law regulating the dispensing of medicines upon a telephonic order. This is a subject which has caused some heartburning in this country, and it is interesting to note that the Norwegian Bill enacts that any substance which requires a doctor's prescription must not be dispensed unless the doctor first declare that the prescription could not be sent without delay, and that the occasion is urgent. The order must be taken by the pharmacist or his assistant with the assurance that he is receiving it from a diplomaed physician. Before telephoning, the doctor must write the prescription, giving the place, date, name, age, and address of the patient, and must acknowledge its being telephoned back to him. After telephoning he must send or post the prescription at once, and if the pharmacist has not received it within four days he must inform the doctor. A pharmacist must not make up a prescription upon a telephonic communication if the official maximum dose be over-stepped, or if he has any doubt; and all such orders must be entered by the pharmacist in a special book, and the written prescription must be compared with it. This should take away the breath of even a German apotheker, who, thanks to the measure of monopoly which he enjoys, is no stranger to stringent laws.

### Spirit of Camphor.

AN exceedingly interesting paper appears in the current issue of the *Archiv der Pharmazie* (1900, 164), by Partheil and Van Haaren, on "The Influence of the Percentage of Water on the Rotation of Alcoholic Solutions of Camphor, and the Estimation of Spirit of Camphor." The importance of this paper becomes strikingly apparent when it is carefully studied side by side with that on spirit of camphor

by Mr. J. F. Liverseege, published in this journal on January 28, 1899. In the latter paper the author practically confined the deductions he drew from his experiments, to the study of the spirit of camphor of the British Pharmacopœia, although one of his experiments might well have suggested the results which Partheil has now attained. Liverseege, using the conventional expression for specific rotatory power —viz.,  $[\alpha]_d = \frac{\alpha v}{pl}$ , where  $\alpha$  is the observed angle,  $p$  the number of grammes in  $v$  c.c. of solution, and  $l$  the length of the tube in decimetres—found that the specific rotatory power of camphor in a solution of rectified spirit (sp. gr. 0.8388) was, in three experiments,  $40.4^\circ$ ,  $39.4^\circ$ , and  $39.9^\circ$ . In a fourth experiment he used spirit of the sp. gr. 0.8644, when the specific rotatory power was found to be  $38.5^\circ$ . The general result arrived at was that if the specific rotatory power were taken as  $40^\circ$ , then each degree of observed rotation in a 200-millimetre tube corresponds to approximately 1.25 percent. of camphor (calculated as a  $\frac{\text{weight}}{\text{volume}}$  percentage). Partheil has gone into the subject a little more deeply. He points out that Landolt has given the formula—

$$C = 2.3614 \frac{\alpha}{l} - 0.01158 \left( \frac{\alpha}{l} \right)^2,$$

where  $C$  is the percentage of camphor,  $\alpha$  is the observed angle, and  $l$  is the length of the tube in decimetres. Incidentally we may note that here, as throughout Partheil's work, the percentages are true ones—that is, grammes of camphor in grammes of solution. Landolt's formula refers to absolute alcohol, and gives a much higher specific rotatory power than  $40^\circ$ . Partheil has examined a number of solutions containing different quantities of water and camphor, and the following show his results:—

No.	Sp. Gr. of Alcohol	Per Cent. Camphor	Observed Rotation, 200 mm.	$[\alpha]_d$
1	0.7896	10	6.98°	43.4362
2	0.8212	10	6.78°	40.6666
3	0.8505	10	6.69°	39.0439
4	0.8637	10	6.65°	38.1439
5	0.8781	10	6.60°	37.2755
6	0.8909	10	6.59°	36.7622
7	0.9007	10	6.59°	36.4008
<hr/>				
1	0.7895	8.37	5.79°	43.2142
2	0.7895	6.81	4.69°	43.1411
3	0.9007	8.35	5.48°	36.2929
4	0.9007	6.82	4.40°	35.6951

These results show that the specific rotatory power of camphor falls off in a marked way as the solvent contains more water, or, as a practical result of this, that it is impossible to calculate the percentage of camphor ( $\frac{\text{weight}}{\text{volume}}$ ) from the specific rotation unless the composition of the solvent be known. Further, it is apparent that with a given solvent the specific rotation falls off as the percentage of camphor decreases. This error, however, is largely done away with by adopting the more accurate method of expressing percentages—viz., as a true  $\frac{\text{weight}}{\text{volume}}$  ratio. Partheil proposes the formula,  $P = 1.5152\alpha$ , or, in other words, each  $4^\circ$  of arc is equivalent to 0.1 per cent. of camphor. The reason of this is easily seen. Since the specific rotatory power decreases with the dilution of the spirit, a given *observed* rotation will actually denote a higher amount of

camphor in a given volume of solution in a weak spirit than in a strong spirit. But this is counterbalanced by using the actual weight-percentage, because the given volume of spirit contains a greater weight as the amount of water increases. Hence Partheil's expression is far more correct, covering alcohol of very varying strength, than any formula for a  $\frac{\text{weight}}{\text{volume}}$  ratio can be. In regard to the strength of the alcohol used in the spirit of camphor, Liverseege proposed the following formula for approximate calculation:—

$$\text{Sp. gr. of alcohol} = \text{sp. gr. of spirit} - (w/v \times 0.0012),$$

where  $w/v$  is the weight volume percentage. He found that 10 grammes of camphor dissolved in alcohol occupied 10.45 c.c. and 10.52 c.c. in two experiments. With these results Partheil agrees, giving his figure as a mean of eleven experiments as 10.47; and his proposed formula—

$$S = \frac{100 - p}{\frac{100}{d} - 1.05 p}$$

where  $p$  = the percentage of camphor, and  $d$  = the sp. gr. of the spirit—really comes to almost the same thing. Observations of this character may appear to the workaday chemist and druggist a trifle too abstruse for his consideration; but in these times when some public analysts have camphor-preparations on the brain, and actually estimate the camphor in camphorated oil by a happy-go-lucky method of heating to 120° to constant weight (which by the way is an impossibility, especially in cases where mineral oil is present), those who sell the preparations are all the better for knowing (at least generally) the conditions requisite for exactitude. It is especially interesting that the presence of water in a solvent for camphor disturbs the optical properties of the dissolved substance.

## The French Tariff.

THE May circular of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris draws attention in a well-written article to certain modifications of the French tariff of 1892 likely to come into force next September which are held to unfavourably affect our equatorial and southern possessions, especially India, Ceylon, the West Indies, and East and West Africa. The new law establishes a minimum duty in respect of coffee, tea, chocolate, pepper, pimento, cardamoms, cinnamon, cassia lignea, nutmegs, mace, cloves, and vanilla, for countries entitled to the benefit of the "most-favoured-nation" clause, and a maximum duty for those who enjoy no such privilege. The United Kingdom is, of course, a "most favoured nation," but our colonies (with the exception of Canada, which has got a separate treaty with France) are not allowed this privilege. Consequently these tariff alterations mean that the produce in question will have to pay practically double the duty hitherto levied. The new duties are as follows:—

	Maximum. Per 100 kilos.	Fr.	Minimum. Per 100 kilos.	Fr.
Pepper	...	400	...	208
Allspice, pimento, cardamoms, cinnamon, cassia lignea	...	400	...	208
Nutmegs	{ in shells	400	...	208
	{ shelled	600	...	312
Mace	...	600	...	312
Cloves	...	400	...	208
Vanilla	...	800	...	416
Tea	...	400	...	208
Coffee	{ beans	300	...	156
	{ roasted or ground	400	...	156
Chocolate	{ over 50% cocoa	300	...	150
	{ less than do	300	...	150

One of the most important articles with which we are concerned is pepper, of which more than half that consumed in France comes from India, the remainder coming from French Indo-China. British India supplies 1,500,000 kilos., as against 1,200,000 kilos. supplied by French Indo-China. The duty on pepper under the old tariff was equal to about 200 per cent.; under the new law it will be 400 per cent. Of course, the trade in spices and cardamoms with India and Ceylon will be adversely affected, and as these articles are not grown to any appreciable extent in the French colonies it naturally follows that the French consumers will have to pay the difference of the increased duties at least for some time to come. On the other hand, the tariff will certainly give an impetus to the imports of vanilla from the French colonies of Tahiti and Réunion. When the law comes to be enforced the duty on tea will be equal to 2f. per lb., instead of 1f. as at present, and the duty on coffee will be 1.50c. per lb., instead of 0.75c. The consumption of tea in France is not very large, the total annual imports being about 850,000 kilos. It is alleged by the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris that the new law was passed without any protest on the part of Great Britain, and it is suggested that this silence may be due to the fact that in March, 1899, the Indian Government put a surtax on bounty-fed sugar, which no doubt hit France rather hard.

## COUNCIL-ELECTION POSTCARD COMPETITION.

"Your tip as to the result has been amazingly correct." So writes an old Pharmaceutical Councillor to us, and now we have to award those who assisted us in giving the straight "tip." None of the competitors named the seven correctly, but several guessed six; and of these three placed four of the councillors in the proper order as elected. To each of these gentlemen we therefore award 10s., and their names are as follows:—Mr. W. E. PLANT, 28 High Street, Doncaster; Mr. W. YATES, 67 Market Street, Shaw, near Oldham; Mr. J. WALTERS, Bolsover, Chesterfield.

## A DASTARDLY ATTACK ON A PHARMACY.

The sympathies of all British pharmacists will be extended to Mr. J. F. Brown, of Dover, in the loss which he has suffered through a mad mob wrecking his pharmacy last Saturday evening. Mr. Brown is one of our most ardent pharmacists, a capable business-man, and the last in the world, we should think, to mix politics with pharmacy. In the present instance he was erroneously suspected of doing something of a pro-Boer nature, and his fine pharmacy in Cannon Street (a corner-shop with several windows) afforded a much too admirable point of attack. For the first time in the history of British pharmacy, that we are aware of, a military force had to be called out to protect Mr. Brown's place of business. Some restitution should be made to him by Dover.

## THE PUBLIC ANALYST'S CERTIFICATE.

Our recent criticism of the injustice done to an Enfield chemist by bringing him twice into court for one offence under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, has had independent support from Mr. Justice Ridley in the High Court this week. It will be remembered that the Enfield chemist had the summons dismissed in the first instance because a copy of the public analyst's certificate was not delivered with the summons. He was again summoned, this time with the certificate, but it was after the twenty-eight days set down by the Act, and we said that was illegal. In the course of his decision in an appeal case Mr. Justice Ridley held that if a copy of the analyst's certificate was not served at the time of serving the summons it could not be done afterwards. That goes further than we thought, and it is a point of considerable importance to traders.

**"THE IMPERIAL DISPENSARY."**

This is the title given to Sir John Tenniel's cartoon in *Punch* this week. It represents Mr. Chamberlain behind a drug-counter. We are almost tempted to emulate the *Taylor and Cutter*, which so sharply criticises the dress in Academy pictures, for the fittings, bottles, and apparatus of Mr. Chamberlain's shop are not above reproach, while it is more usual to have prescriptions written on a piece of cigarette-paper than on the sheet of foolscap which the veteran artist has put in Mr. Chamberlain's hand. The customer is a Kangaroo, and the conversation between chemist and customer runs as follows:—

The Kangaroo: "I've got a sort of—er—feeling of oppression. My doctor at home gave me that prescription!"

Mr. Ch-mb-rl-n (*Colonial Chemist and Druggist according to the British Pharmacopoeia*): "Abolition of appeal to Privy Council"—of course, I could make it up for you, but I think I can give you something that will exactly suit your constitution!"

So Mr. Chamberlain is to be ranked with the substitutors! We regret that we cannot reproduce the cartoon, but it is *Punch*'s invariable rule not to allow that. Perhaps, however, many of our readers already have the cartoon displayed in their windows. Those who have not should get a copy of *Punch* for this week, as it contains a coupon entitling them for 4*d.* to a copy of "An Evening with *Punch*," which is a history of the world-famed "Charivari" with hundreds of pictures from it and some of the choicest witticisms.

**BUSINESS HINTS FROM A HIGH QUARTER.**

A caustic criticism of a book written by Sir Courtenay Boyle, K.C.B., Secretary to the Board of Trade, on the conduct of business, which appeared in the *Outlook* last Saturday, induced us to get a copy of the little volume, which is published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. (Limited), at 3*s.* 6*d.* It is certainly not a book which many connected with the drug-trade can gather business wisdom from, but we do not think that it is entitled to be treated in the perfunctory manner in which the *Outlook* critic handled it. Sir Courtenay Boyle knows, perhaps, better than anybody that there are a very large number of men engaged in official and other business who have had no office training, but go straight from universities and other places of learning to undertake their duties. To such men many little but essential trifles, familiar to all who have gone through a regular training in a business house, are either unknown or are frequently neglected owing to their apparent unimportance. A very large part of Sir Courtenay Boyle's book is devoted to such trifles. The fact that so important an official as the Secretary of the Board of Trade thinks it necessary to discuss such matters with solemnity tickles one just a little bit, but we fancy that Sir Courtenay has passed the smiling stage. The latter part of the book deals with such things as semi-official letters, memoranda, official letters and despatches, division of responsibility, interviews, deputations, councils and conferences, and contains a great deal of matter which will interest men of position. Indeed, the book is an excellent reflex of the official atmosphere, and we would commend a perusal of it to those who in any capacity have to do with official departments, although it is not necessary to regard it seriously as a text-book for other than private secretaries, and those who make their living in such departments.

**CHEMISTS' TRAVELLERS.**

The complaint against the new order of callers upon consultants has again broken out in the *British Medical Journal*. An anonymous correspondent thus relieves himself in the last issue:—

Can any of your readers suggest a method of stopping the constant touting for orders by wholesale druggists and other firms? Every day circulars are received through the post or samples forwarded for approval and purchase by medical men. This method is adopted *ad nauseam* by American houses, and

the British firms are to a certain extent following the example set. Only the other day I received a letter from an American graduate, who represents a wholesale drug-store, recommending some tonic. This is not the only inconvenience. We are troubled by commercial travellers and representatives of various firms, who are constantly gaining admission to the waiting-room during consulting hours and at other inconvenient times.

I have a notice in my hall to the effect that I cannot interview commercial travellers who call on business. This has had some effect in stopping them; but the only way will be for medical men as a body to return or destroy all letters, circulars, or samples received, and to refuse to see any representatives from druggists or instrument-makers. A firm with a German name is continually forwarding medical tablets in pill-boxes glued on to the envelope. These I do not open, as I consider that these chemists simply require professional men to find a sale for their drugs and to serve their own ends.

These strictures are not universally applicable, but it is a fact that some representatives of wholesale chemists and of houses dealing in wines, meat-extracts, and food-stuffs, by their manners, their untimely hours of call, and the methods they adopt for interviewing medical men, who do not wish to be seen, have created a strong antipathy against the whole class on the part of some consultants and general practitioners. Especially is this the case in London, where the facilities for distributing samples over a large number of the medical profession are exceptionally good. On the other hand, we know that accredited representatives of well-known houses are received well, in spite of occasional rebuffs from the few discourteous medicos. This is the other side of the matter, which at least deserves consideration, for many in the drug-trade are well aware that the wholesale condemnation of the "chemists' travellers" is unjust to many men who are as well liked by physicians as they are by pharmacists.

**A CENTURY OF CHEMISTRY.**

Professor Dewar has just concluded a series of lectures on "A Century of Chemistry" in the Royal Institution. The history of chemistry in this country during the last hundred years has been so largely the history of the Royal Institution that it was quite appropriate to give such a series of lectures there. It is also particularly fitting that Professor Dewar, the worthy successor of a line of illustrious chemists, should deliver the lectures. Much of the subject-matter was well-known, but the interesting manner in which the old facts were stated and the timely experiments made them most acceptable. Sir Humphry Davy was practically the founder of the scientific reputation of the Institution. He it was who devised experiments which led to the establishment of the theory of heat as a mode of motion. His investigations on gases yielded many new facts which were early put to practical uses. The Davy safety-lamp for miners, and the introduction of nitrous oxide as an anesthetic, are cases in point. It is probable, however, that Davy's electrical work was of much greater importance. The electro-chemical theory developed as a result of the electrical investigations and Davy's reasoning that the freedom of movement of atoms was a function of their temperature, and that, at a low temperature, voltaic piles would become inactive, was now comparatively easily shown by taking advantage of the cold of liquid air. Brande's work was mainly on the border-land of chemistry and physiology, as much of his work was on organic substances, and his association with pharmacy is not to be forgotten. Michael Faraday's investigations were chiefly in organic chemistry, although his electrical investigations were also numerous. He first combined iodine with a hydrocarbon, and prepared compounds of chlorine and carbon. His work on the liquefaction of gases, and his elucidation of the nature of indiarubber, are examples of the comprehensiveness of his researches. Sir Edward Frankland continued Faraday's researches in organic chemistry, and did a large amount of technical work on water and gas supplies. Dr. Odling and Dr. J. H. Gladstone were investigators of a later generation, Odling being distinguished by his philosophic grasp of the whole field of chemical theory, and Gladstone for his studies of the relation between the refractive indices and densities of bodies.

## General Medical Council.

THE sixty-ninth session of the Council opened on Tuesday, May 23, in their parliament-house in Oxford Street, at 2 o'clock. Several well-known faces and able speakers were missing. The lamentably-premature death of Sir R. T. Thorne has deprived the Council of an agreeable presence and an apt and pointed debater; the war in South Africa is responsible for the absence of the eloquent Sir William Thomson (now in command of the Irish hospital at Bloemfontein); Mr. Brudenell Carter, whose well-chosen and correct language was a lesson to the slovenly and slangy tendency of a younger generation, has retired from the Council, and Dr. Leech is seriously ill. Mr. Wm. H. Power, M.R.C.S., F.R.S., chief medical officer to the Local Government Board,



MR. W. H. POWER, M.R.C.S., F.R.S.

has been appointed to succeed Sir R. T. Thorne, and was introduced to the Council by Mr. Bryant. Sir Hugh Beevor, Bart., M.D., F.R.C.P., introduced by Dr. Pye-Smith, has been elected by the Society of Apothecaries in the place of Mr. Carter. Sir William Turner was free after these introductions to proceed with his Presidential address. He briefly referred to the Council's losses, paying a tribute of praise to the late Sir Richard Thorne, and referring to Mr. Carter said, "We shall lose in our debates his bright intelligence and fertile source of expression." Sir William then spoke of the solicitor's retirement, and said it would be necessary to appoint a solicitor to succeed Mr. Farrer. After some remarks on the standing orders, in the course of which he said the Council would during the session be asked to take power to close a debate either on a motion or an amendment, and that the proposal for the closure should be made and seconded without debate, the President reported that a short Bill had been prepared for conferring upon the Council additional powers for penal and disciplinary purposes, both for the Council and for the medical authorities represented on it. The representatives of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London, Dublin, and two of the Scottish Universities, in the House of Commons, have agreed to support the measure. In regard to the Midwives Bill, the Committee appointed to watch legislation on this subject has held two meetings, and has submitted amendments to the Lord-President of the Privy Council for his consideration. The President next touched upon the question of medical reciprocity with Italy, and in reference to the Preliminary examinations said that the Committee and the experts would submit recommendations for reform in the conduct and standard of these examinations.

The question of the infringement of the copyright of the Pharmacopœia by certain publications was brought before the Executive Committee in February, and it was resolved to ask the chairman of the Pharmacopœia Committee, along with two other members, to prepare a statement and to report to the President. The President has now received the statement, which recommends that the opinion of counsel should be taken on several questions of importance; the Executive Committee have acted on this recommendation.

He deeply regretted that the state of Dr. Leech's health would prevent him from attending the meeting, and presenting in person the report of the Pharmacopœia Committee.

After the vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Dr. Macalister and seconded by Dr. Pettigrew, had been passed, Dr. Heron Watson brought forward his customary motion that the tables showing the result of professional examinations be received and entered on the minutes. Mr. Geo. Brown, however, who appeared on the scene of debate as fresh and as eager for discussion as ever, objected to the tables being relegated to the minutes as a matter of form, without consideration, and moved that those bearing on the public services be referred back to the Examination Committee for report. Sir Dyce Duckworth, as Chairman of the Committee, was quite unable to see what they could do; they could not go behind the returns. Sir John Batty Tuke, M.P., also said there was nothing in the idea. Mr. Brown was confident that if he was a member of the committee he would be able to suggest something. The Council, apparently, did not agree with him, for the motion was lost by seven to sixteen.

### MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS.

The amendments for clearing up the standing orders on debate (referred to by the President in his address), framed by the Executive Committee on the model of those of the London County Council, were introduced in a motion brought forward by Dr. Macalister and seconded by Mr. Bryant, with the entire concurrence of the Chairman; such amendments were carried after Sir Philip Smyley had been satisfied as to the meaning of the "previous question." Dr. McVail was anxious that it should be made impossible for any member to make a long speech and then put the closure, shutting up other men's mouths. Dr. Bruce and others cordially agreed that that would be very unfair. Sir C. Nixon thought that good taste would prevent any such outrage, and the Chairman reassured them by saying that he would not countenance such a proceeding. Dr. McVail moved, and Mr. Horsley seconded, that the words "unless the President or Chairman shall rule otherwise" be added to "the proposal for the previous question shall be made and seconded without debate, and shall be put forthwith," but only one other member voted with them.

### MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The tables showing the results of the medical examinations held in the United Kingdom during 1899, referred to in the foregoing, give the failures and passes in these examinations. We deal with the "Finals" especially, because the incompetents are weeded out long before the Finals are reached:—

		Failed	Passed
English Double Qual. ...	...	311	513
L.S.A. ...	...	193	300
M.B., Cantab. ...	...	25	62
M.B., Oxon. ...	...	6	6
M.B., Durh. ...	...	10	43
M.B., Lond. ...	...	62	92
M.B. & Ch.B., Vic. ...	...	39	53
Scotch Triple Qual. ...	...	224	224
M.B. & C.M. (or Ch.B.), Edin. ...	...	61	207
M.B. & Ch.B., Aberd. ...	...	18	38
M.B. & C.M. (or Ch.B.), Glasg. ...	...	29	72
Irish Double Qual. ...	...	61	76
Ditto (with L.A.H.) ...	...	1	2
M.B., &c., Dubl. ...	...	27	127
L.M., Dubl. ...	...	1	1
M.B., &c., R.U.I. ...	...	29	52

The tables show that for the first examinations 1,237 failed and 1,697 passed, in the second examinations 1,400 failed and 2,094 passed, and in the finals 1,371 failed and 2,488 passed. There were, therefore, 3,859 examined in the finals, as compared with 2,984 in the first, but it should not be inferred that this shows an increased number of students. The statistics from year to year must be compared to find how many of those who are registered as medical students drop out, and re-examinations in the final usually occur in the

same year. We observe that although 2,488 passed the final examinations in 1899, only 1,351 of them proceeded to registration as medical practitioners. It appears that about 1,000 individuals take their medical qualifications yearly yet do not proceed to registration.

#### INCREASED PENAL AND DISCIPLINARY POWERS.

The further report drawn up by the President on the steps taken by him to secure increased penal and disciplinary powers was printed *in extenso* for the members, who signified their approval of it. It is intended that the Bill, founded on the report drafted by the Council's legal advisers, be introduced into the House of Commons at the first convenient opportunity. It consists of five clauses, and provides (1) that the Council may erase for a limited period the name of any registered person convicted of a felony or misdemeanour in England and Ireland, or any crime or offence in Scotland, or who has been judged by the Council to be guilty of infamous conduct in a professional sense; (2) that medical authorities may for similar reasons revoke, suspend, or cancel diplomas which they have granted, and restore them without requiring the person to pass a qualifying examination; and (3) that all fines recovered under the Medical Acts and Dentists Act should be paid to the Treasurer of the General Council.

When the proceedings were resumed on Wednesday, the President, in the name of the Council, congratulated Dr. Hector Cameron upon the honour which the Queen had conferred upon him. The Council then proceeded to discuss

#### THE MIDWIVES BILL.

upon which one of the direct representatives (Dr. Glover) brought up an interim report. The report, Dr. Glover stated, was of considerable importance: its fundamental principle was to protect women from unskilful and unregistered practitioners, and the only controversial point was as to how far the practice of midwifery was allowable. He alluded with satisfaction to the readiness expressed by the President of the Privy Council to give every consideration to their suggestions, and to the fact that he took the same view as they did of the importance of limiting midwifery-functions. Mr. Horsley contended that the Council had whittled down their resolution of last March by adopting the recommendation of the President of the Privy Council, and proposed that the words in the report, "the adoption of Amendment 1 of March 21 as a clause in the Bill be not pressed" be altered to "should continue to be pressed."

Mr. Brown seconded the amendment. He thought the Bill was of the most dangerous character, and referred at some length to the views expressed by "Mr. Johnson" in the *Lancet*, though, when asked by the Chairman who Mr. Johnson was, he was unable to say. His eloquence was suddenly checked, and some amusement was felt when Dr. Macalister asked Mr. Brown if he would approve of the report if the amendment was carried.

Dr. Atthill did not like the Bill, but thought it the best they would get.

A few weighty words from Sir William Turner, speaking, not as Chairman, but as a member of the Midwives Bill Committee, probably settled the doubts of some who were still dissatisfied. He pointed out that they must take into consideration the principle on which the Bill was framed. Parliament could not be expected to go into medical questions, but they had delegated power to the G.M.C. and the Board of Midwives (which would be controlled by the Council), so that all lay in their power, and they had got their safeguard. The Council thereupon expressed their satisfaction with the report by 20 votes to 5.

On the resumption after tea Mr. Brown was found to have a new motion on hand, to the effect that the constitution of the Central Midwives Board be altered to five registered medical practitioners, two to be appointed by the College of Physicians, two by the College of Surgeons, and one by the Society of Apothecaries. Mr. Horsley seconded. The motion was lost by 18 to 4.

It was agreed to send a copy of the report to the Duke of Devonshire.

#### PERSONATION.

Mr. Horsley moved, and Mr. Tomes seconded, "That Council's opinion be taken on the possibility of preventing,

either by legal action or, if necessary, by amendment of the Medical and Dentists' Act, fraudulent personation of registered medical and dental practitioners." The Public Prosecutor having stated that the question was out of his province, the offence not being a criminal one, Mr. Horsley thought the Council should inquire as to the provisions of the existing laws, and if that was found to be inadequate, should consider how best to obtain an amendment of the Act. The words "under the existing law" being inserted after "legal action," on the suggestion of the President, the motion was carried.

The Council then went into committee to consider the report of the Committee on the Prevention of Personation, which was brought forward by Mr. Horsley, who said that at present the methods of registration afforded no real means of identification, and identification by diplomas was of little value. The committee advised the Council to institute the method already adopted in Government offices, and resorted to recently by one of their own branch Councils, of identification by handwriting. The next point was as to restoration to the Register, which they proposed should be brought back to the position laid down by Section 14 of the Act of 1858. In cases where names were about to be erased owing to returned letters, they proposed that the Registrar should send a registered letter to a medical practitioner or other person in the same district to inquire whether such a person still resided in the district. As to appropriation of certificates of dead persons, it was proposed that in place of these certificates a formal receipt be given for the registration-fee; while in any case where the name did not appear on the Register a certifying letter in set form might be addressed to anybody seeking to appoint a medical man, such letter to be of value only from date until the next sitting of the Council. Upon the difficulty experienced in getting notices of the deaths of registered practitioners the Committee asked the Council to again approach the Registrar-General with a view to complying with Section 45 of the Act. Consideration of the report was adjourned.

#### ONE MAN ONE VOTE.

The County of Durham Medical Union had sent up a resolution, expressing the opinion that the Medical Profession is not sufficiently represented on the Council, and suggesting that representatives from universities and corporations should be elected by the graduates or members. The Executive Committee recommended that these recommendations could not be adopted under the existing law. A somewhat unexpected little wrangle over this was started by Mr. Horsley, but he had no support, and the committee's recommendations were adopted.

#### "THE HALL."

A communication from the Society of Apothecaries was received, in which it was stated that the Society, while ready to consider combination between the Royal Colleges and the Society for examination purposes, declined to discuss the principle without the terms and conditions of the proposed combination.

Thursday was occupied with medical and dental cases, one of the latter on the programme affecting Mr. Oglesby, of Barnsley.

## Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

BOOTS (LIMITED) have opened their newly-restored premises at the junction of the Market Place and French Row, St. Albans. The interior of the pharmacy, like the exterior, is of oak, and there is a solid oak staircase which is an exact facsimile of one which existed there in 1637.

THE business of a retail chemist and druggist, established about 100 years ago by Mr. Rhodes, in Upperhead Row, Leeds, and after his death successfully carried on by the late Mr. William Backhouse, on whose decease it was sold to Mr. G. N. Chadwick, is, owing to the death of the last gentleman named, to be closed.

## Review.

*Richter's Organic Chemistry; or Chemistry of the Carbon Compounds.* Vol. II.: Carbocyclic and Heterocyclic Series. Edited by Professor R. ANSCHÜTZ (assisted by Dr. G. Schroeter); translated by Professor EDGAR F. SMITH. Third American, from the eighth German edition. 8vo. Pp. 671. London, 1900: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co. (Limited). 15s.

ABOUT a year ago we reviewed the first volume of this excellent work, which treats of the aliphatic series of carbon compounds, and we are now glad to receive a second equally-important volume, comprising the carbocyclic and heterocyclic series, which renders the work complete. The subject-matter of the present volume may be indicated by the following division of its contents:—

Methods of ring-formation in the case of the cycloparaffins.

I. *Tri-, Tetra-, Penta-, and Heptacarbocyclic Compounds.*—This chapter comprises 28 pages, and treats mainly of the cycloparaffins and their derivatives.

II. *Hexacarbocyclic Compounds.*—This chapter, comprising 406 pages, is a large and important one, and the compounds of which it treats are classified as follows:—

(A) Aromatic or benzene derivatives containing a single nucleus.

(B) Hydroaromatic substances containing a single nucleus, which include the terpene and the camphor groups.

(C) Aromatic substances containing several nuclei.

III. *Heterocyclic Compounds.*—These compounds, which form the concluding chapter of the book, represent, in distinction from the preceding, the so-called ring-skeletons, consisting of atoms of various elements. They include, among other interesting bodies, various alkaloids belonging either to the pyridine, tropine, quinoline, or iso-quinoline groups.

In considering a work of this character and scope, with the multitude of chemical facts and theories comprised within its compactly-printed pages, it would obviously be quite impracticable to attempt, within reasonable limits of space, a discussion of more than a comparatively small portion of its contents. It nevertheless seems desirable that a work which is already so widely and favourably known should receive not simply the expressions of commendation which it merits, but that, in justice to the editors and the translator, and especially on account of its extended use, apparent errors of statement or defects in translation should be noted. For this purpose some limitations are also necessary, and we therefore deem it expedient to restrict ourselves to such features as are especially of pharmaceutical interest. The following observations may therefore be noted:—

On page 66 there occurs the statement: "Nitrobenzene is used to impart the odour of bitter-almond oil (essence of mirbane)." This would seem to imply that essence of mirbane is a synonym for bitter-almond oil, whereas it applies only to nitrobenzene.

On page 145, under "Carvacrol," there are two misprints. "Briganum" should read *origanum*, and "carvum carvi" should read *carum carvi*.

On page 159, under "Pyrocatechin," "catechine" should read *catechu*, and also on page 232, where it is stated that "catechutannin occurs in catechin." On the same page it is said that "the tannin found in the 'quinine-barks' is combined with the 'quinia-alkaloids,'" which would better read, "the tannin found in the *cinchona-barks* is combined, at least partly, with their alkaloids."

On page 183, under "Benzaldehyde, bitter-almond oil," there occurs the following curiously-confused statement: "Formerly it was prepared exclusively from its 'glucoside amygdalin.' At present it is only the officinal bitter-almond oil water, in which hydrocyanic acid is the active ingredient, that is made from the amygdalin. Benzaldehyde does not occur already formed in the bitter almonds, but is produced from the glucoside amygdalin 'contained in the oil.'" Natural bitter almond oil is, of course, still largely produced from seeds containing amygdalin, such as apricot or peach kernels, although rarely from bitter almonds, but the oils are identical. The amygdalin is also not contained in the "oil," but in the respective seed, from which the oil is produced through the action of the ferment-emulsin on the amygdalin.

On page 212 the "ethyl ester" or "ethyl ether" of anthranilic acid is mentioned, but not the "methyl ester." The latter would seem worthy of mention, since it has now become of importance on account of its discovery in the oil of orange-flowers, the odour of which it possesses, as also in the oil of sweet-orange and oil of jasmine.

On page 217 the word "glucose" is misplaced, having been brought under the formula for "Saligenin."

On page 270 "baye" oil, "muscat-nut" oil, and "maci" oil should read *bay oil*, *nutmeg oil*, and *mace oil* respectively.

On page 286 bergapten is said to "separate, on standing, from 'red' bergamot oil by pressing out the fresh 'hulls' of *Citrus bergamia*." We do not remember to have ever seen "red" bergamot oil; it is usually green or greenish-yellow, and *rind* would be a better expression than *hulls*.

On page 309 "rhodinol" is said to "occur, together with geraniol, in different rose, geranium, and pelargonium oils." The so-called "rhodinol" has long since been shown to consist either of geraniol or of a mixture of the latter with citronellol.

On page 310 "citrel" should read *citral*.

On page 311 "limonene" is said to be "present in the oil obtained from the 'shell' of citrus aurantium, and in 'citron' oil." The latter should read *lemon oil*, and *rind* or *peel* would be a more correct expression than "shell."

On page 318 menthone is said to occur in American and Russian peppermint oils, together with "menthene." It has been shown that the latter hydrocarbon is not contained in American peppermint oil, and its occurrence in the Russian oil is very doubtful.

On page 320 the oils of *Mentha pulegium* and *Hedeoma pulegioides* (not *pulegioides*) are said to "occur in commerce under the name 'poei oils,'" whereas the common English name is  *pennyroyal*.

On page 334 we read that "Amber is a fossil resin, found in peat-bogs." This does not quite correctly describe the occurrence of amber.

On page 428, under "Chrysarobin," this is said to "occur in goa- and 'aroroba'-powder"; but these are identical, and the latter should be written *araroba*.

Page 429.—Glycosides or glucosides are defined as "those vegetable substances which break down into sugars (chiefly grape-sugar or glucose) and other bodies, when they are exposed to the action of unorganised ferments, enzymes." The action of dilute acids should also be mentioned in effecting this change. In the same paragraph both "glycoside" and "glucoside" occur; but the latter is believed to be the accepted English orthography.

Page 430.—Amygdalin is said to "occur in bitter almonds and in the kernels of *Pomaceæ* and *Amygdalaceæ*, as well as in cherries, peaches, apricots, and the leaves of the cherry-laurel"; but all of these belong to the botanical orders or sub-orders mentioned.

Page 431.—"Æsculin" is said to occur in the root of the wild *jasmine*, *Gelsemium sempervirens*. This is incorrect, for the fluorescent principle of the latter drug, as E. Schmidt has shown (*Archiv der Pharmacie*, 1898, page 324), is  $\beta$ -methyl-esculetin.

Page 432.—Under "Aloin," aloes is defined as "the dried sap of many plants of the aloes variety," and picrotoxin is said to be found "in the grains of cockle." Both of these statements may be more correctly expressed.

On page 434 we read "chlorophyl." This word has always been written *chlorophyll* both in English and German, and there seems no good reason why the spelling should be changed.

Page 562.—Under "Alkaloids," it is stated that "they are the chief constituents of the active principles of the vegetable drugs," &c., but they usually represent the active principles themselves. It is also said that "the large families of the *Composite* and the *Labiate* do not furnish them," which is not quite correct, for hyoscyamine has been found in species of *Lactuca*, belonging to the *Composite*, and the alkaloid stachydrine occurs in a labiate plant.

Page 565.—The formulas and statements relating to pilocarpine and pilocarpidine require to be modified in accordance with the recent researches of Jowett (*Journ. Chemical Society*, April, 1900, page 473).

Page 571.—"Quina bases" and "quina-barks" are expressions used for cinchona bases and cinchona-barks, and the latter are said to be derived from the various cinchona species—*cinchona*, *calisaya*, &c.—"also from the *Rubiaceæ*," to which, however, the cinchonas belong.

Page 573.—A morphine hydrochloride is said to be "applied in the liberation of mucus," but, although sometimes used as an expectorant, its principal use is as an emetic.

The various little lapses referred to, some of which may be considered of minor importance, can easily be corrected in a subsequent edition. Our only motive in calling attention to them is in order that a work so highly appreciated, and so complete in its arrangement and general details, may be free even from these slight imperfections. The translator merits a good deal of praise for the admirable manner in which he has accomplished a most difficult, and certainly very laborious, task. We may note, however, the expression "starting-out material," presumably for *ausgangs-material*, which occurs on pages 26, 194, and elsewhere, and which might, perhaps, be a little more euphoniously rendered.

## Legal Reports.

### High Court Cases.

RED DRENCH.

WE reported last week (page 856) an action by Messrs. Day & Sons, of Crewe, against Riley & Whittaker for an injunction to restrain them from using the plaintiff's trade-marks. We regret to find that in error the title "Red Drench," which is the exclusive property of Messrs. Day, Son & Hewitt (not of Messrs. Day & Sons), was used by our reporter, instead of "Red Drink." As Mr. Justice Buckley made an order in respect to one of Messrs. Day & Sons' trade-marks, we wish particularly to call the attention of our readers to the fact that Messrs. Day, Son & Hewitt have on many occasions, and at considerable expense, sustained their rights in the registered title "Red Drench." *Last week's order in no manner affects those rights.* We may also point out, for the benefit of those who do not follow legal matters closely, that, apart from any trade-mark rights which they may hold, the manufacturers of articles such as "Red Drench" have a right of action in common law against any persons who, by selling a similar article under the same name and in the same style, induce people to purchase the article under the supposition that it is the one popularised by such manufacturers. This was excellently shown in the "Yorkshire Relish" case, where, although the title was removed from the register of trade-marks, the persons who had sold a Yorkshire Relish not made by Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co., but resembling it in get-up, were restrained by injunction.

### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

IN the Court of Appeal on May 19, the case of *Percival v. Garner* came before Lord Justices A. L. Smith, R. V. Williams, and R. Romer. The facts were these:—Messrs. Bowman, chemical-manufacturers, Widnes, decided to erect new buildings at the Temple Works. They provided all the material, employed their own foreman, and had the buildings erected from designs by their own architect. They, however, contracted with the respondent (Garner) to supply men to carry out the work. These men were entirely under their direction. One of them, Percival, fell from a ladder and was killed, whereupon his widow sued the respondent in Liverpool County Court. Judge Collier decided in her favour, upon which the respondent appealed on the ground that he was in no sense an undertaker. He had not undertaken the construction, repair, or demolition of any building. In fact, he had done nothing but supply labourers as he might have supplied bricks. The Court decided that the County Court Judge was in the wrong, that Messrs. Bowman were clearly the undertakers as defined by the Act, and they allowed the appeal with costs.

### CARRIAGE OF "SMALLS."

ON Friday, May 18, the Railway and Canal Commission (Mr. Justice Wright, President), sitting in the High Court, gave judgment in the case of Smith & Forrest, manufacturing chemists, Liverpool, against the London and North-Western Railway Company and various other companies for a reduction on the carriage of "smalls."

The applicants alleged that since December, 1892, the companies had illegally increased a large number of rates for merchandise forwarded in consignments of not more than 3 cwt. by altering the scale in force up to that date.

The Court, after a thorough examination of all statistics in the matter, held that the advance of 3 per cent. was not justifiable, for there was a presumption that the rates as they existed at the end of 1892 were reasonable. The railway companies had rested their case on a wrong basis—that it was sufficient to show an increased cost over the ratio of receipts. That could not, of itself, absolutely justify an increase of rates; if it did the effect would be to guarantee the existing rates and dividends of railway companies, and that was not the purpose or intention of railway companies. There must accordingly be changes in the rates and charges.

### ELECTROLYTIC ALKALI.

THE Appeal to the House of Lords of the Castner-Kellner

Alkali Company (Limited) against the decision of the Court of Appeal in the action by the Company against the Commercial Development Corporation (Limited) in regard to the Kellner electrolytic patents, has occupied the attention of their Lordships during the past eight days. Mr. Moulton and Mr. Botsfield were heard on behalf of the appellants, after which Mr. Terrell and Mr. Astbury replied for the respondents. The differences between the Kellner and Rhodin patents were fully gone into, and in the course of the argument for the respondents a model of the Rhodin apparatus (similar to that which was shown at the Hotel Cecil luncheon which preceded the flotation of the company) was brought into the House and placed upon the Lord Chancellor's table, the model being worked and the process fully explained and contrasted with the Kellner one. In the latter the complete cells move, while in the Rhodin apparatus the carbon anodes are made to rotate. The Lord Chancellor, who presided, was particular in emphasising that no question of law is involved in the appeal. He was also sharp in getting behind Counsel's arguments; thus, at the closing sitting on Monday, and while Mr. Astbury was arguing, he said it seemed to him that neither side knew how their apparatus would work, and the witnesses had to speak from theory.

Mr. Astbury said his clients knew that their system would work. Theirs was a thoroughly efficient system.

The Lord Chancellor: But, so far as the last matter you mentioned is concerned, you have not tried by experiment.

Mr. Astbury: That is so, but as far as our system is concerned we have got the matter ready for work. We have bought the patent, and have spent a large sum of money upon it.

Mr. Moulton having replied, their Lordships announced that they would consider their decision.

### AGREEMENTS WITH ASSISTANTS.

IN the Queen's Bench Division on May 17, Mr. Justice Channell decided that an agreement entered into by a chemist with his assistant for the latter not to engage in business elsewhere in the neighbourhood was binding upon the assistant after the business had been sold. The facts were these:—Mr. Frederick J. Lane purchased for 500*l.* the business of a chemist and druggist carried on by Mr. Henry Pattman at Halesowen, in Worcestershire. Mr. Pattman had an assistant named Murray who had agreed not directly or indirectly to trade himself or act in partnership with or as assistant to any other person trading in opposition to Pattman within a distance of five miles from the house of business. No limit of time was specified. Murray left the village, but lately he had returned and was acting as assistant to a rival shop in the High Street opposite to Mr. Lane's, who now, as purchaser of the goodwill and business, claimed to be entitled to the benefit of the agreement, and accordingly sought an injunction to restrain Murray. Defendant was not represented in the court, and did not appear. Mr. Justice Channell acknowledged, in granting the injunction, some doubt as to the validity of the agreement owing to the omission of any time limit.

AN injunction to restrain was granted by Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy on May 18. This was a motion on behalf of Needham's (Limited) for an injunction to restrain a Mr. Dale from carrying on business as a chemist and druggist within ten miles of Huddersfield in contravention of an agreement made between the plaintiff and the defendant on January 11, 1894. Mr. Dale was manager to the plaintiff's business at Huddersfield, and had agreed that after leaving plaintiff's employment he would not, either on his own account or as an assistant, carry on business or engage in any business as a chemist and druggist within a radius of ten miles from Huddersfield. In March, 1897, the plaintiff turned his business into a company, and in October of that year the defendant left the company's employment and the country. Early in 1899 he returned and started business for himself in Huddersfield. On February 6 the defendant signed a document to the effect that in consideration of the plaintiff forbearing to proceed against him for committing a breach of the agreement he would adhere to his agreement. The defendant had now started business again, and evidence was produced that a Mr. Sutcliffe bought from him on March 12 an indigestion-mixture and some cough-lozenges. Dale did

not deny that he lived within the prescribed area. On behalf of the defendant it was contended that plaintiff oppressively treated him. The defendant was the inventor of a patent medicine, which was the article he sold. He was not a qualified chemist and druggist, and could not legally act as such. Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy held that the defendant had sold drugs or chemical commodities which were usually sold by chemists and druggists, and on that ground he granted the injunction.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

#### SEIDLITZ-POWDERS.

At Solihull Police Court on May 22, Margaret Jane Smith, huckster, Solihull, was fined 2*l.* and costs for selling seidlitz-powders 37*2* per cent. deficient in tartarated soda and bicarbonate of soda and 58 per cent. deficient in tartaric acid. The boxes were labelled, "Superior to the ordinary pharmaceutical preparation."

#### SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

AT Fenton Petty Sessions on May 16, Isaac Bowers, grocer, Fenton, was summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was 33 per cent. deficient in ethyl nitrite. The inspector stated that the deficiency was due to improper keeping, and the Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. H. Wright) said that small tradespeople were indiscreet who kept drugs of the properties of which they knew nothing, but as that was the first case of the kind that had come before him defendant would only have to pay 16*s.* costs.

#### ALUM IN BAKING-POWDER.

AT Reigate on May 12, Peter Wm. Packham, Horley, was fined 10*s.* and costs for selling baking-powder which contained 19 per cent. of alum, 14 per cent. of bicarbonate of soda, and 67 per cent. of farinaceous matter.

AT Westbury on May 14, Joseph Henry Beak, of Dilton Marsh, was fined 5*s.* and costs for selling baking-powder containing 30 per cent. of alum, 22 per cent. of bicarbonate of soda, and 48 per cent. of farinaceous matter.

#### "GUARANTEED PURE."

SOME time ago a provincial firm of grocers bought butter from a Liverpool house which was "guaranteed pure" on the invoice. The grocer was summoned under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act for selling it, the Public Analyst's certificate stating that it was adulterated with boric acid. The grocer produced his invoice as a warranty, and the summons was dismissed. He then took action against the Liverpool house to recover the costs which he had incurred, and these the Flintshire County Court judge gave him, because he did not consider the butter to be pure (absolutely pure) as guaranteed. The Liverpool house appealed, and on May 24 Mr. Justice Bigham and Mr. Justice Ridley decided that the County Court judge was wrong. Absolute purity in commercial butter was impossible, although relative purity was, and they did not regard the addition of a harmless preservative as an impurity. The case was accordingly referred back to the County Court for re-trial.

#### CAMPHORATED OIL.

THE adjourned hearing of the case against the Camberwell traders, Shambrook and Quance, for selling inferior camphorated oil was taken at Lambeth Police Court on May 17, the decision being given in our last week's issue (page 868). In each case the inspector had purchased three penny bottles of the article, and mixed the contents before dividing the sample. Both the solicitors for the defence, at the previous hearing, contended that the inspector had acted contrary to the requirements of Section 14 of the Act by mixing the oils, holding that the contents of each bottle should have been analysed separately. In the case of Quance, it was further stated that notice was given to the purchaser that the article supplied was not camphorated oil, but "campholeum," and it was pointed out that the bottles were labelled, "Campholeum, formerly known to the public as camphorated oil." Dr. Teed, public analyst, now corroborated the statement of the inspector that the mixing of the contents of the bottles was necessary to provide a sufficient quantity for analysis.

Mr. Francis, in giving his decision, said, upon the analyst's evidence, he had come to the conclusion that it would have been almost impossible to make a satisfactory analysis of the contents of one bottle, and he felt, moreover, that no hardship was inflicted upon the defendants by what was done. Although the words of the statute said the article must be divided into three parts, he did not see that the Act said that the stuff should not be mixed together and then divided, and he saw nothing to prevent that being done. The two cases were somewhat different, because in the second case, apart from Section 14, it was said that there could not be a conviction, because under the 6th Section the person who bought the article got what he asked for. It was said that the words on the bottle, "Campholeum, formerly known to the public as camphorated oil," was enough to convey to the purchaser that the article supplied was not camphorated oil, but something different. If the purchaser had been told, "This is not camphorated oil, but it is campholeum," he did not think there could have been a conviction, but the label, "Campholeum, formerly known to the public as camphorated oil," seemed to him to convey that campholeum was camphorated oil. He did not think the defendants were the real culprits, and ordered each to pay a fine of 40*s.*, and 38*s. 6d.* costs.

### County Court Cases.

#### A CLAIM FOR BOTTLES.

IN the Westminster County Court on May 22, Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C., had before him the case of Roberts *v.* Whiteman, in which the plaintiff, a bottle-dealer, sought for the committal of the defendant, a chemist, formerly carrying on business at Westminster Bridge Road, for non-payment of a judgment-debt in respect of bottles supplied. The defendant appeared, and said he had been out of business for the past year, and had been so unfortunate that he had lost all he had. His Honour, under those circumstances, refused to make any order.

#### TRANSFER DISPUTE.

AT Witney on May 15, an action was brought by Mr. Nimrod Keen, chemist and druggist, Witney, against Mr. Charles Gerring, chemist and druggist, New Romney, for 4*l.* 14*s.* value of brown paper and other goods. Plaintiff purchased defendant's business at Witney, and has since the transfer been suing defendant for goods which he alleges belonged to the business, but which had been removed. Mr. Gerring denied that the goods mentioned in the present action belonged to his chemist's business. They belonged to his music-business, which he had disposed of to another person. The Judge awarded plaintiff 15*s.*, with costs, and advised him not to bring any more actions of that sort against the defendant, as he might not be so successful.

#### DISMISSAL WITHOUT NOTICE.

AT the Clerkenwell County Court on May 18, Thomas Vale Christmas sued Mr. N. Steinberg, Golden Lane, E.C., for 10*l.*, being one month's money in lieu of notice. Plaintiff stated that he was engaged by the defendant as a clerk, at a salary of 120*l.* per annum. He was paid monthly; all the other employés except the manager were paid weekly. When plaintiff left defendant said he was not entitled to a month's notice. His Honour (Judge Edge, Q.C.), in giving judgment, said: If there should be an existing idea in the trade that a clerk who has been engaged on a yearly salary, and has been paid monthly, can be sent away at a week's notice, I think I can dispel it. If I were to follow the ruling of Chief Baron Pollock, and the plaintiff had sued for the amount, I could have awarded him, as a clerk, not one month, but three months' salary, so that employers in this trade had better be more careful in future as to how they engage anyone on the yearly system.

Judgment was entered for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with costs.

### Apothecaries Act.

AT the Bow County Court on May 23, a herbalist named Perdue was summoned by the Society of Apothecaries for a penalty of 20*l.* for infringing the Apothecaries Act by

practising and prescribing as a medical practitioner. From the statement of Mr. Lane, who represented the Society, it appeared that defendant had a shop in Limehouse, and a man named Jeffrey went there to get some ipecacuanha wine. Defendant asked Jeffrey what was the matter with the child (for whom the wine was intended). Jeffrey told him the symptoms, whereupon defendant said he would come round to see the child. He did so, and finding the throat sore he syringed it, adding, "I have got some medicine at my shop which will do your child good." He subsequently attended the child, declared it to be suffering from diphtheria, and supplied it with medicine, for which he received fees. The father in the witness-box corroborated this statement, and explained that defendant charged him 1s. 6d. a visit. His children were subsequently taken to the hospital, where they were cured. Dr. D. W. Thomas, M.O.H. for the district, deposed that defendant had sent in the usual notification. He signed himself "J. C. Perdue, Fellow of the Council of Safe Medicine, London." After Mr. Young had opened the defence Mr. Perdue gave evidence. He denied that any arrangement was come to between him and Jeffrey as to payment. He syringed the child's throat, and gave it a stimulant (a mixture containing port wine, lemon-juice, glycerin, and linseed-tea). He prescribed no medicine at all, as he knew he would be breaking the law if he did. After some questions from Judge French had been replied to by defendant, Mr. Young submitted that by an Act of Henry VIII, 34-35, herbalists were allowed to practise if they did not do what was reserved to apothecaries. Diphtheria was covered by this Act, inasmuch as one of the cases which herbalists were allowed to deal with under the Act was "sores." One of the symptoms of diphtheria was a sore throat, and hence that would come under the definition of sores. He submitted that the defendant had not infringed the Apothecaries Act in any way. The Judge replied that that was just the question, and after further remarks left the matter to the jury, who returned a unanimous verdict for the plaintiffs. Judgment was thereupon given for the Apothecaries' Society with costs.

## Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re* ROBERT WILLIAM WILKINSON, 18 Mill Street, and 52 Halifax Road, Cullingworth, Yorkshire, Drug-dealer.

THE public examination of this debtor was taken at Bradford on May 16. Debtor stated that up to August last he was a gardener, but fell out of employment in consequence of ill-health, and he then commenced business. He had, however, had extremely bad health, having been only able to work three days since Christmas. His wife was still very ill. The Official Receiver remarked that it was a sad case, and the examination was declared closed.

*Re* ALBERT EDWARD WARD, 32 White Abbey Road, Bradford, Wholesale and Retail Chemist.

THE public examination of this debtor took place on May 16 at Bradford. Debtor stated that ten years ago he was a chemist's assistant, earning 37s. 6d. per week. He purchased in March, 1891, the retail portion of the business of Mr. S. Miller, paying for the stock 432*l.* in cash, and for the goodwill 20*l.*, the latter to be paid subsequently in instalments. There had not been a single year in which his receipts had exceeded his expenses. The case was eventually concluded.

*Re* WILLIAM SYKES, in partnership with William Burnside McPhail, as Wm. Sykes & Son, 179 Cleveland Street, Hull, late New Bridge Mills, Meltham, near Huddersfield, Soap and Chemical Manufacturer.

THE statement of affairs shows gross liabilities 3,195*l.* 10s. 9d., and assets 592*l.* 18s. 11d. The debtor attributes his failure to loss in attempting to work a glycerin-plant, loss on soap-contracts, and to want of capital. The Official Receiver in his observations says the debtor states that an agreement for partnership between Mr. McPhail and himself was drawn up, but never signed, and that Mr. McPhail took part in the business, and drew out of the firm the same weekly sum as himself. Mr. McPhail denies, however, that he was ever a partner.

*Re* GEORGE DAWSON, Jun., Darlington, Dealer in Cattle-medicines.

THIS debtor applied for his discharge at the Stockton Bankruptcy Court on May 22. He failed in November last; liabilities 315*l.*, and assets 52*l.* 16s. A dividend of 2s. 4d. in the pound had been paid to the unsecured creditors. The Official Receiver opposed the discharge, stating the debtor's conduct during the bankruptcy proceedings had not been satisfactory. The Judge said the debtor had committed almost every offence under the Bankruptcy Act, and he was inclined to refuse the discharge altogether; but if the debtor paid the creditors 10*s.* in the pound, he would adjourn the application *sine die*, so that the debtor could renew the application.

*Re* CHARLES HENRY FOOTT MENHINICK, 6 Mount Pleasant Terrace and 23 Milbay Road, Plymouth, Chemist and Druggist.

The Official Receiver has now realised this estate, and, having declared a first and final dividend, gives notice that it is his intention to apply to the Board of Trade for his release. The net realisation shows receipts amounting to 213*l.* 19s. 9d., as against 420*l.* 14s. 3d., the bankrupt's estimate of the value of his estate; total costs and charges, 44*l.* 16s. 5d.; preference creditors, 52*l.* 19s. 6d.; dividend of 2*s. 1d.* in the pound on 1,110*l.* 3*s. 4d.*, the amount for which proofs were admitted, 115*l.* 12*s. 10d.*; balance in hand, 11*s.* The bankrupt's estimate of the amount expected to rank for dividend was 1,152*l.* 13*s. 4d.* The Official Receiver reports that all the saleable assets have been realised. The bankrupt over-estimated the value of his assets. Endeavours were made to dispose of the business as a going concern, but no offer was received. Ultimately, after a sale by auction had been advertised, the bankrupt's friends purchased at valuation. The stock, &c., at Milbay Road were distrained by the landlord for rent. The book-debts were reduced by contra accounts and claims for overcharge.

## Gazette.

### Partnerships Dissolved.

**Crowhurst, W. H., and Crowhurst, J.**, under the style of William Henry & James Crowhurst, veterinary surgeons and farriers, Canterbury.

**Holder, W., and Wyatt, W. L.**, under the style of Holder & Wyatt, surgeons and apothecaries, Kingston-upon-Hull.

**Holloway, E. A., and Edwards, T.**, under the style of T. Edwards & Co., opticians, New Oxford Street, W.

**Judd, M. A. (widow), and Price, J.**, under the style of Judd & Co., chemists, Leamington.

**Kerswell, J., and Grafton, T.**, under the style of Kerswell & Grafton, mineral-water manufacturers, Exmouth.

### The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDER.

**Button, Thomas**, Holland Park Avenue, Kensington, W., doctor of medicine.

#### ADJUDICATION.

**Hall, Frank** (described in the receiving order as F. Hall) Edgware Road, W., dentist.

## Deed of Arrangement.

**Potter, Thomas Burbidge, Jun.**, High Street, Lutterworth chemist and druggist. Trustee, Edwin P. Steeds, C.A., 20 Friar Lane, Leicester. Dated, May 12; filed, May 15. Liabilities unsecured, 975*l.* 10s. 4*d.*; estimated net assets, 610*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Brown, F., Lutterworth	...	17	0	0
Butler, E. H. & Son, Leicester	...	12	0	0
Idris & Co., London	...	30	0	0
Lavender, T., Lutterworth	...	15	0	0
Lawrence, Henry, London	...	10	0	0
Lee, J. L., Lutterworth	...	282	0	0
Lloyd & Co., Leicester	...	14	0	0
Moore, A. P., Leicester	...	204	0	0
Mills & Co., Bourne	...	41	0	0
Bankers' claims	...	191	0	0

## New Companies & Company News.

INGLETON WATER POWER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 7,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of the Ingleton Carbide Company, and to carry on the business of calcium-carbide manufacturers.

BLUEBELL POLISH COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 8,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at 17 Leman Street, E., by J. L. Dyson, and to carry on the business of chemists, polish manufacturers, &c.

PROFIT-SHARING STORES (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at 330 Uxbridge Road, W., by T. W. Lewis, and to carry on the business of grocers, oil and Italian warehousemen, patent-medicine and chemical vendors, &c.

EUROPEAN PETROLEUM COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 1,100,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with the Eastern Trust (Limited), and to carry on the business of producers, refiners, storers, suppliers, and distributors of petroleum and the products thereof.

MANCHESTER ACETYLENE GAS COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 50,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of the Manchester Acetylene Gas and Carbide Company (Limited), of Salford, and to carry on the business of gas and general engineers, chemical manufacturers, &c.

JOSIAH TYLER (LIMITED).—Capital 60,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of warehousemen, drug and chemical merchants, &c. The first directors are:—J. Tyler, E. D. Tyler, C. P. Tyler, and N. E. Tyler. Qualification 100*l.* Josiah Tyler is the first managing director.

BOWMAN, THOMPSON & CO. (LIMITED).—The annual meeting of shareholders in this company was held on May 22, when the offer of Brunner, Mond & Co. to purchase the entire undertaking for 350,440*l.* was unanimously accepted.

DAVIS'S CHLORINE PROCESSES COMPANY (LIMITED).—Two meetings of the shareholders of this company were held in Manchester on Tuesday. They were not largely attended, and were of a private character. One of the parties interested told our reporter that the company wanted more debentures to be taken up.

CASTNER-KELLNER ALKALI COMPANY (LIMITED).—The report for the year ended March 31 shows a gross profit of 59,480*l.*, and net 45,398*l.* The shareholders are to receive a dividend of 8 per cent. per annum, 6,277*l.* is to be written off the expenses of the debenture issue, 10,000*l.* is to go to the depreciation reserve account, and 3,767*l.* is carried forward (against 5,342*l.* last year).

QUININE BITTERS MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—The report for the year which ended on March 31, 1900, states that the net profit amounted to 501*l.* 15s. 10*l.*, and with the balance from last year leaves 657*l.* 12s. 8*l.* in hand. The interest on calls paid in advance amounted to 85*l.* 12s. 9*l.*, and the directors recommend a dividend at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum, which will absorb 449*l.* 18s. 2*l.*, and leave a balance of 122*l.* 1s. 9*l.* to carry forward.

W. J. BUSH & CO. (LIMITED).—The directors for 1899 report a gross profit of 64,520*l.*, and the net profit 14,780*l.*, making, with the amount brought forward, 29,773*l.* available for dividend. After deducting the dividends paid and accrued on the preference shares, and the interim dividend on the ordinary shares, 3,763*l.* remains. The directors recommend the addition of 2,000*l.* to reserve fund, and the payment of a dividend at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares, making 5 per cent. for the year, and carrying forward 513*l.* Last year's dividend was 8 per cent.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT COMPANY (LIMITED).—The report of the directors for 1899, to be presented at the meeting to be held at Cannon Street Hotel on June 7, states that the result of the year's work exceeds that of the previous one by 7,197*l.* The purchase of the Itá-Caíbó camp and stocking it, as well as the cattle purchases for the adjoining 17 leagues of the Umbú Estancia, necessitating a large investment, the directors recommend that the capital should be increased to 1,000,000*l.* by the creation of 100,000 5 per cent. preference shares of 5*l.* each, of which 50,000 are now to be issued, 25,000 as a bonus to the shareholders, to be paid for by a transfer of 125,000*l.* from the reserve fund, and 25,000 to be offered to the shareholders at 5*l.* per share

in proportion to their holdings. The balance of the profit and loss amounts to 130,233*l.*, out of which an interim dividend of 5 per cent. was paid, amounting to 25,000*l.* The directors propose to appropriate the balance by paying a dividend of 15 per cent., or 3*l.* per share, making 20 per cent. for the year, 75,000*l.*; carrying 10,000*l.* to reserve, 2,000*l.* to employees' provident fund, and deducting 8,769*l.* directors' percentages, leaving 9,465*l.* to be carried forward.

STEPHEN SMITH & CO. (LIMITED).—The annual meeting of this company was held at 43 Broad Street Avenue, E.C., on May 18, Mr. H. J. Hall (managing director) presiding. In moving the adoption of the report and accounts the Chairman first called attention to the satisfactory financial condition of the company. Their total indebtedness was something like 4,600*l.*, against which they had cash at bankers' and on deposit over 5,000*l.*, and sundry debtors 9,722*l.* During the three years' existence of the company the total bad-debt account has not exceeded 100*l.* a year, which he thought proved the soundness of the business. The stock-in-trade of 17,000*l.* included wine purchased and paid for before the increase in duty, so that the market-value of every gallon was more than it had been computed at for the balance-sheet purposes. There was still 25,000*l.* working capital, and a small reserve had been built up, this asset alone representing 10*s.* in the pound to the preference shareholders, there being no debentures. With regard to the profit and loss the gross sales and the net profit had increased. The introduction of Keystone Burgundy promised to be one of the most profitable things the company had taken in hand. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and it was resolved that a dividend of 6 per cent. per annum, less income-tax, for the six months ending March 31, 1900, be paid on the preference shares, and a dividend of 2½ per cent. per annum, less income-tax, on the ordinary shares. Mr. John Gibbs was re-elected a director of the company. The report states that the gross profit for the year ending March 31 was 15,751*l.* After adding 500*l.* to reserve, and paying the dividends on preference and ordinary shares, 760*l.* will be carried forward.

SHARP BROTHERS' SOAP AND PERFUMERY COMPANY (LIMITED).—On Monday, May 14, an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at 18 and 19 Red Lion Square, W.C. It was resolved—(1) "That it has been proved to the satisfaction of the company that the company cannot by reason of its liabilities continue its business, and that it is advisable to wind up the same, and that the same therefore be voluntarily wound up." (2) "That Mr. George Henry Carter, of 1 Queen Street, Cheapside, in the City of London, chartered accountant, be and he is hereby appointed liquidator for the purposes of such winding up."—On Tuesday, May 15, a private meeting of the creditors was held at the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorgate Place, when Mr. Carter presided and explained the position of affairs, which showed liabilities of 7,885*l.*, and assets estimated at about 4,000*l.* The company was formed in 1895, with a capital of 14,000*l.*, to take over the business of John Sharp, trading as Sharp Brothers, at Southampton Row, W.C. At that time most of the shares were held by Messrs. J. H. Schmitz, J. H. Schmitz, jun., F. R. Cresswell, E. J. Cresswell, and A. G. Cresswell, who held 149 shares each. In 1896 Mr. Barthold Bernheim held 500 shares, and the fore-mentioned gentlemen, with the addition of Mr. T. C. Schmitz, held 150 shares each. Some time ago Mr. Lowes purchased the principal interest in the business. His position in the matter was fully explained to the meeting, and it was stated that he had had great difficulties to contend with owing to business not being what he expected, and prices of materials had gone up greatly. After considerable discussion Mr. Lowes offered 7*s.* 6*d.* in the pound, but increased this to 10*s.*, and the meeting appointed a committee of investigation, who will report to the creditors at a meeting to be held next week.

On May 7 a petition for the compulsory winding up of the company was presented in the Chancery Division of the High Court on behalf of Messrs. J. and P. Cowan. It came before Mr. Justice Wright on May 16, but his lordship was asked to allow it to stand over, as there had been a meeting of the creditors of the company and one of the principal shareholders had guaranteed a payment of 10*s.* in the pound. The motion was accordingly ordered to stand over for a month.

## Western Chemists' Association.

THE last meeting of the session at the Westbourne Restaurant on May 23 was well attended and interesting. The President (Mr. J. F. Harrington) was in the chair, and, after three new members (Messrs. Bourdas, jun., Middleton, and Jenkins) had been proposed a committee was appointed to make arrangements for the annual dinner in November next.

Thereafter Mr. F. A. Rogers initiated a discussion on the

### DISPENSING OF PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

He said the conditions of pharmacy were vastly influenced by the stress of competition, and every pharmacist should see to it that both sides of his calling—the business, as well as the scientific, side—were kept equally up to date. That being so, it happened that in recent years the pharmacist had become a specialist in specialities. A doctor was perfectly justified in ordering a proprietary article, but he (the speaker) could not defend the prescribing of well-known drugs of a special name or brand which the chemist could very well dispense himself. It was said that the general public were becoming too knowing; they were certainly "knowing" enough not to have anything but the best they could get. With regard to the question in relation to the distributor and wholesale dealer, it must be acknowledged that some proprietaries have come to stay, and chemists must take steps to defend their position. In dispensing he would suggest that all traces of the origin of the article and its properties should be removed, and the chemist's own packages or bottles should be used. He did not think a display of ignorance of the article dispensed when questioned by the patient was good policy. Referring to the question of cost, in no case would he sell the article prescribed below retail price; in many cases he charged a higher rate, to cover dispensing charges, and if a stamp were broken, he thought the chemist was justified in adding the amount—whatever it might be—to the charge. Tablets he would charge at corresponding pill prices, and said there was a great want of a simple, inexpensive machine for the preparation of flexible capsules. The crowning difficulty with the chemist, however, was the stocking of these proprietaries. In many cases the quantities which had to be ordered from the wholesaler or proprietor made the stocking a profitless affair, and he thought wholesalers should make some arrangement for preparing proprietaries for dispensing, so that they might be obtained by the chemist in any quantity, however small. Unless that were done, they could not expect any hearty co-operation by the chemist. He thought the establishment of a wholesale central warehouse, where all the proprietaries usually dispensed could be readily obtained, would be an immense advantage to the chemist. It would save time and trouble, and could be made not to clash with wholesale houses. Further, if proprietaries are produced with the *bonâ fide* intention of having them prescribed by doctors, they should be named so that they could be easily rendered into Latin, and not produced palpably for retailing.

Mr. R. H. Parker said the question of proprietary articles involved one of the most troublesome phases of modern pharmacy. It struck at the root of pharmacy, entirely removing the pharmacist from the object of his training and placing him in the position of a simple luckster. He thought they should set their faces against the thing, and every chemist should exercise what influence he possessed with doctors in his locality to discourage the prescribing of these things. The ideal state would be the chemist in his pharmacy surrounded by genuine drugs and chemicals, which he should compound and pack up for the use of patients. As regards dispensing, he would send out neither more nor less than was ordered; but, as a necessary corollary, he would recommend that on all that class of preparations a higher charge should be made, so that losses on the stocking of one article might be reimbursed by being spread over the whole.

Mr. C. B. Allen was afraid many doctors had very little knowledge of the constituents of these preparations which they prescribed, and, therefore, the approaching them on that point was a delicate matter. However, he imagined

that the doctors themselves were beginning to see the mischief of this prescribing of proprietaries, for the patient sooner or later finds out that he can get the article in large quantities at a cheaper rate, and the practice reacts on the doctor himself. In an institution in his locality the doctors had agreed to prescribe nothing except B.P. articles.

Mr. Albert Cooper thought the difficulty arose from the want of proper medical training nowadays. He would like chemists to have more champions like Sir William Broadbent, who informed a colleague who had prescribed some proprietary article that he would never do so for three reasons—viz. (1) inaccurate dosage, (2) unfair to patient, (3) unfair to the prescriber.

Mr. Norton approved of the central establishment idea, and Mr. Gaubert suggested approaching the Medical Council. Mr. Hyslop thought it was all a case of education. Proprietary-articles people had to bribe the chemists with Christmas presents, and so on, and now the doctors were suffering from the process. The only remedy was to educate the doctors. Mr. Worsley suggested that chemists in each locality should pass round a list of the proprietary articles which they had in stock. After Mr. Hick had objected to the use of the word "bribery" Mr. Rogers replied.

## Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1/-, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," May 2, 1900.)

"CUTICURA"; for chemical substances. By the Potter Drug and Chemical Corporation, 1357 Columbus Avenue, Boston, U.S.A.

"LIMRIL"; for food-substances. By Virol (Limited), 152 to 166 Old Street, E.C. 229,823.

"SALIPYRIN" (no claim for "Sal"); for chemical substance. By J. D. Riedel, 12 Gerichtstrasse, Berlin. 229,381.

"EUCOL"; for turpentine substitute. By R. R. Minton & Co., 39 Clepside, Liverpool. 229,226.

"LIEBIG COMPANY'S," and device; for food substances. By Liebig's Extract of Meat Company (Limited), 9 Fenchurch Avenue, E.C. 228,389.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," May 9, 1900.)

"DIANINE" (no claim for "Diani"), "DIANOL," and "PARANOL" (no claim for "Para"); for photographic developers. By A. Lumière & Fils, Rue St. Victor, Lyons. 228,985, 228,986, 228,988.

"GOLDEN PALM"; for chemical substances. By Raimes & Co., 24 Prince Regent Street, Stockton-on-Tees. 230,018.

Device of hamper; for chemical spraying-powder. By James H. Dennis & Co. (Limited), 24 Chapel Street, Liverpool. 229,515.

Device of ballet dancer and wording; for corn cure. By H. Edwin, 4 Fulham Place, Paddington, W. 226,664.

"YEKKO," other wording, and device; for a liniment. By Brocher & Co., 459 Battersea Park Road, S.E. 227,336.

"PEPTENZYME"; for chemical substances. By the Peptenzyme Company, 38 Alfred Place, South Kensington, W. 229,531.

Device of man with bottle; for chemical substances and perfumery. By S. Gulliver & Co. (Limited), 7 Argyll Street, Oxford Circus, W. 230,031, 230,032.

Signature of applicant; for mineral and aerated waters. By Alexander Fraser, Turriff, N.B. 229,754.

"LEMONA" (no claim for "Lemon"); for mineral and aerated waters. By Batey & Co. (Limited), 216 Kingsland Road, N.E. 230,007.

ESSENTIAL OILS.—A copy of a second edition of Mr. T. H. W. Idris's "Notes on Essential Oils" comes to us on publishing day—too late for our attempting to do it justice this week. It can be obtained from Messrs. Idris & Co. (Limited), Camden Town, London, N.W.



**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### The Council-election.

SIR,—Will you allow me to thank those members of the Pharmaceutical Society who are also readers of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* for the generous and effective interest they took on my behalf in the recent Council-election? I well know that it is to their votes I owe my success, though, to be strictly fair, I think I ought to credit a few to the unintelligent abuse with which I was favoured by the Society's official organ.

I hope that one result of this election may be to encourage the disposition which I know exists in Cannon Street to work in union with the Pharmaceutical Society for the general welfare of the whole trade.

Yours faithfully,

Barrymore, North Finchley, May 19. A. C. WOOTTON.

SIR,—I would esteem it a favour to be allowed to express through the medium of your columns my thanks to all those who supported my candidature at the recent pharmaceutical election.

If in the capacity of a member of Council I can be of service to any of your readers, I hope and anticipate they will give me the opportunity.

Yours faithfully,

80 Gloucester Road, S W., May 21. ALBERT COOPER.

SIR,—I should like, through your columns, to thank most cordially those who voted for me at the recent Council election. I must have had many, to me unknown, friends whose support and interest were used to obtain votes for me, and these, too, I thank as well. I value in a way I cannot here express the result of the poll and the expressions of goodwill that have since reached me. I will try to merit them.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN TAYLOR.

SIR,—It becomes my pleasant duty to thank the 1,587 members who recorded their opinion that personal qualification and personal responsibility must be the basis of any pharmacy law which can develop naturally. May I say that our reason for entering the contest was solely to test this issue? We have had the Council at a deadlock for the last six months, and this, in the interests of progress, we thought should be removed by the electorate; but as to which half of the Council was right and which wrong—as an issue—we have found it impossible to get before the electorate. On the one hand, we have had the traditional policy for the return of former councillors because of their eminent respectability; and on the other, a policy of unmeaning change, which was supported by a strong organisation. This "caucus" we refused to join, because in our view it was desirable I should join the Council with a mandate or not at all. In face of these—as events prove—insurmountable difficulties, we have come within 30 of being able to say: "There you have a specific instruction!" I consequently urge that the 1,587 positive opinions deserve, as they will doubtless receive, the serious consideration of the new Council. That so many votes should be recorded, under such circumstances, for one who, whilst unknown and without influence, refused the strongest support, is a fact of which I am very proud. With many thanks,

Yours faithfully,

Blackburn, May 22.

R. LORD GIFFORD.

#### Degrees in Pharmacy.

SIR,—I read with great pleasure Dr. McWalter's letter in your last issue, and desire to express my entire sympathy with the suggestions contained therein. I am sure many

pharmacists who desire a higher degree would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity if the B.Sc. or D.Sc. could be obtained by simply taking out the necessary examination or examinations, and, if the latter, I am of the opinion that the fact of having graduated in pharmacy should be taken into account, and that licentiates, whether English or Irish, should be exempt from the rudimentary examinations of the course, seeing that they have already passed a searching examination in these subjects. I also agree with Dr. McWalter in thinking that pharmacists should be invited to express their views on the subject, which I hope will be brought to a successful conclusion.

Yours faithfully,

J. ARMSTEDT RAY, JUN., B.A., F.C.S., M.P.S.I.  
15 Nassau Street, Dublin, May 21.

#### Resuscitation Wanted in Wales.

SIR,—In reference to the note in your last week's issue under Welsh News I may say that, unless chemists allow petty jealousies and little differences of opinion on the policy of an association to sink into oblivion, it will be useless trying to get Cardiff and Newport to form one strong combined association. Personally I think it would be a very good thing, and it would supply a long-felt want in this corner of gallant little Wales. Alas! some say Monmouthshire is not in Wales, and some say we are not in England. Where are we? At any rate, let Cardiff speak out, and express its opinion through your valuable paper; and I hope Newport will likewise do so. Surely we can come to some arrangement, whereby we might send one, if not two, candidates to the Pharmaceutical Council.

It is now a frequent occurrence to have matters appertaining to our profession discussed at St. Stephen's; but unless we unite, what can we expect? At present Wales, and practically the West of England, except Plymouth, have no representation on the Pharmaceutical Council. Is this right?

Yours truly,

NEWPORT-UPON-USK, May 21. BENSON HARRIES.

SIR,—Your note respecting the formation of an amalgamated association of Newport and Cardiff chemists will find sympathisers in this town. Some of us have been waiting for a lead for some time. Our local leader is a great loyalist, and his hands are full just now on behalf of the "absent-minded beggar"; and his time is always very fully taken up with public matters. His deputy has, unfortunately, somewhat released his hold on pharmacy in favour of another more lucrative calling. In the meantime local pharmaceutical polities are at a standstill. I would suggest, as a feasible and desirable project, another "Three Towns" Association—Cardiff, Newport, and Pontypridd—an equilateral triangle of twelve miles, with facility of communication each to each. Local interests could be conserved by separate home rule and organisation.

Pharmacists were never less dead than they are just now, and it would be well if advantage could be taken of the present inflow of life.

Yours, &c.,

W. J. SANDERS.

#### Pharmacy in Trinidad.

SIR,—With regard to Mr. Inniss's letter (*C. & D.*, May 19), his remarks on the advertisement quoted are just, although (taking into consideration the size of the island) I beg to differ as to the roads. True, there are many miles of splendid main and local roads and about forty-five miles of railway, but many of the means of communications across the island are as I have described.

I regret that I should have in any way misrepresented pharmacy in Trinidad, especially as I have received so much courtesy and kindness at the hands of pharmacists individually and collectively.

Very faithfully yours,

13 Alfred Row, Acton, W., May 19. WALTER H. INCE.

#### Bergen Cod-liver Oil Market.

SIR,—We take the liberty of drawing your attention to an error in your Bergen correspondent's letter of May 12. He writes concerning the catch in Finmarken that "nearly all the liver is being steamed." Up to May 19, however, Finmarken had steamed 1,500 barrels oil, equal to about 3,500 barrels liver, but 10,000 hectl. of liver, or about 8,600 barrels

of liver, were reserved for the production of ordinary (raw) cod-liver oil.

Yours faithfully,

Bergen, May 21.

A. SMIT & ZOON.

#### Eucalyptus Oils.

SIR,—The notes in your April 28 issue by Messrs. Baker and Smith, which appear to have been called forth by my letter published in your issue of February 3, are exceedingly interesting, but have, I think, rather deviated the points under discussion into a somewhat academic channel. From that point of view I have but little to remark in reply, but two points are sufficiently important for special attention. If the characters assigned to the oil of *Eucalyptus amygdalina* by Messrs. Baker and Smith are correct—and they should have ample opportunity for verifying the same—then we must revise our opinions on this species at once; but with the general position taken up with regard to the individuality of species by Messrs. Baker and Smith I do not agree. The great variation in the essential oils of a given species of plant under different conditions of climate and soil are such that it becomes very dangerous to rely much upon these, and one risks elevating insignificant varieties to the rank of species. Speaking from memory, I believe Mr. Baker only found very trifling differences in the structure of *Eucalyptus dextropinnea* and *E. laeopinna*, but Mr. Smith laid great stress on the different optical rotations of the pinene present in the two oils, and said he regarded these as strong evidence of specific difference. I doubt whether most botanists would make this differentiation—unless, indeed, the purely botanical characters warranted it. My letter merely referred to the pharmacopoeial standards for the oil, and I only revert to it to deal with the new points raised by Messrs. Baker and Smith. I have long advocated a sp. gr. of 0.905 as the official minimum, so that here we are in agreement; but I think it rather a quibble to say that “the sp. gr. of a good eucalyptus oil is not governed by the amount of eucalyptol present,” especially as they immediately go on to say that a eucalyptus oil containing over 60 per cent. of eucalyptol may contain little else besides pinene, in which case the sp. gr. may certainly be described as depending on the amount of eucalyptol present. Here they raise an interesting point, and I cannot reconcile all their statements with fact. A eucalyptus oil containing 60 per cent. of eucalyptol and 40 per cent. of pinene would have a sp. gr. of 0.902 (taking pinene as 0.880 and eucalyptol as 0.930). I have never, although I have examined a very large number of oils, seen or heard of an oil containing anything near 60 per cent. of eucalyptol with so low a sp. gr. as 0.902. Messrs. Baker and Smith’s most drastic suggestion is the abolition of the optical rotation as a pharmacopoeial standard, their reason being that any rotation can be obtained by judicious mixtures. This is true, for this and many other essential oils, but the real point is quite lost sight of—viz., that if the optical rotation of a sample is “faked” in the way referred to, the other pharmacopoeial standards will not be complied with. If they are, then the mixture of oils answers the requirements of the Pharmacopoeia and serves any purpose that the oil of one individual species would. It is perfectly evident that one could add 50 per cent. of a mixture of American and French turpentine to a good eucalyptus oil without removing its optical rotation outside the limits; but what would happen to the sp. gr. and cineol-content?

ERNEST J. PARRY.

134 Upper Thames Street, E.C., May 1.

#### Citral-content of Lemon Oil.

SIR,—In your issues of March 3 and 10 Mr. Ernest J. Parry and the London Essence Company write about the different degrees of citral contained in lemon oil upon which I desire to comment. I am not a chemist, but am practically skilled in regard to oil of lemon, and I cannot acknowledge that citral is the most important part of the perfume contained in the oil. Citral exists in larger proportion in other oils which have not a lemon perfume, and how is it possible that the lemon essence of Palermo, in which chemists state there is a larger quantity of citral, has not that charming and sweet perfume which the oils produced in the vicinity of Messina give? Further, why is it that lemon oils containing a small proportion of citral are often preferred by the nasal test, as well as by the results obtained in the products in which they are employed, to oils containing larger quantities of citral?

From this fact I conclude that the citral in the oils is not in every case identical. The citral not only varies in quantity but in substance of aroma, according to the soil, manuring, temperature, position, and situation of the trees, and according to the period of the year in which the fruits are gathered. Granting that citral is the principal aroma in the lemon oil, there may be citral which gives a perfume as 100, and another as 50. This may be considered nonsense by chemists, but I cannot otherwise explain how manufacturers of aerated waters obtain better results with a lemon oil which contains little citral, than with oil containing much.

By taking the quantity of citral only as the basis of valuing lemon oil it is quite possible that the manufacturer of lemonade employing an oil of 7½ per cent. citral may find that his products have no taste of lemon at all. There are many causes which may alter more or less the perfume of lemon oil, but make no change which the chemist can discover, although the nose of an expert can. I do not allude to adulteration with turpentine, but to such as the following:—Put the lemon oil into a vessel not filled entirely, and let it be exposed for some time to the air. You will soon observe that the perfume of lemon commences to change into an odour of resin, exactly the same as the odour of the pine-fruit. The colour turns pale, and if you let it stand a long time in this way you will observe the oil to thicken more and more and become of a reddish colour, and you will be obliged to throw away even the vessel, the odour being too nauseous. Here in Sicily this change is very well known, and it frequently happens that manufacturers sell oil so altered; yet the chemist will state the quantity of citral in this oil, and will declare it to be quite pure. Judging by the odour, I would not have this oil even if it were a present. Many houses make a monopoly of this oil; they buy such essences at a low price, which the seller is obliged to accept in order not to lose all. These houses purchase even Palermo and Calabria lemon oils, which cost always 15 to 20 per cent. less, and mix them in given proportions with the excellent oil of Messina, possessing a very rich perfume. Is the chemist able to find out this mixture? Of course not! The smell of the expert, however, will state that it is not genuine Messina oil, and will also find out the odour of pine. Lemonade made with such oil certainly has not the fine flavour of lemon.

I beg to suggest to people interested in this article that a good method for distinguishing by smell the defects of an oil is comparing the same with the pure oil from the fresh fruits of the environs of Messina, which oil I hold at disposal of everybody requiring it.

FRANC. ANT. CORIO.

[Mr. Corio holds the common but erroneous view that chemists judge the value of lemon oil by its citral-content alone. That is the very thing that the best analysts wish to remove from the minds of buyers. They require several analytical factors to tell whether an oil is genuine or not; but the assistance of analysts is not usually required to tell that an oil has become turpentine through oxidation. Mr. Corio is, we believe, right in suggesting that soil and climate have much to do with the odour and constituents of lemon oil, and chemists are agreed that citral is one only of these constituents.—ED.]

#### Support the B.P.C.

Sir,—Permit me on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations to commend to the notice of the local associations the special effort now being made to increase the membership of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. The work that is done by that body entitles it to the support of every pharmacist, and it is believed that the local associations through their Councils or officers can do much towards making its objects more widely known. In addition to the claim of the Conference upon all who are interested in the progress of pharmacy, its annual meetings afford the only real and attractive opportunity for chemists from all parts of the country to meet in social intercourse, and to exchange expressions of opinion with prominent men of the pharmaceutical world, to have those opinions first-hand, and to make their own known. Will the local associations or responsible members thereof do what they can in their districts to strengthen the Conference?

Yours truly,

JAMES COOMBS, Hon. Sec.

### Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

**63/1. Medical Corps.**—The Minor qualification of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is the statutory qualification for keeping open shop for the sale of poisons and compounding medical prescriptions containing poisons in Great Britain. Holders of the certificate are not entitled to do the same thing in Ireland. There are no dispenserships in the Royal Navy, but there are in the naval hospitals. In respect to them consult our DIARY for 1900, page 263, and page 260 of our last issue.

**131/15. S. C. C.**—You will obtain all information in regard to the manner of obtaining off-wine-licences in our DIARY for the current year, page 221.

**64/60. Antipyrin.**—It is not necessary that the three years' practice in the dispensing of medical prescriptions required in the Minor examination should be passed in one establishment.

**75/59. C. J.**—The condition in the apprenticeship indentures which would preclude the apprentice from practising the business within a certain area and for a certain period, either in the service of another or trading on his own behalf, is good. The absence of a penalty does not affect the matter, as an injunction may be obtained to enforce the agreement. The subsequent verbal agreement made between the apprentice and his employer to continue the service after apprenticeship, and which agreement the employer has since broken, would form on the part of the apprentice an excellent set-off to any action taken by his employer, or for an independent action to enforce the agreement.

**76/31. Sigma.**—We have no doubt in our own minds that any person who has before August 30, 1900, entered for the Minor examination, and paid a fee of 5/- 5s., may be examined any number of times subsequently at 3/- 3s. a time.

**77/36. G. M.**—Letters patent are granted to the applicant if the subject-matter of the specification is suitable for protection. If the discovery has been made by another, that person would have the right to object to letters patent being granted to the applicant.

**26/19. Old Subscriber** has not sent his name and address, and he is quite wrong in his law.

**77/37. Dispenser.**—The fact of paying a subscription as a student associate of the Pharmaceutical Society for three years is insufficient evidence that a Minor candidate has for that time been engaged in dispensing medical prescriptions. A declaration to the latter effect testified, by a chemist and druggist or medical practitioner, must be produced.

**83/59. Sub.**—The name "Rimmel" in association with perfumes and toilet-articles has acquired trade value to one firm, and we think you would be using it for the shampoo-powder with great risk to yourself. It would be interesting to know the result should you try.

**87/55. J. F. T.**—An unqualified person may not sell an emulsion for horses which contains tincture of cantharides.

**83/65. Glendores asks:**—When a landlord, in the absence of any written agreement of tenancy, raises the rent, what length of notice must he give his tenant before the increased rental comes into force, the rent being paid quarterly? [A landlord cannot raise the rent until the previous tenancy has been duly determined. The only way that the tenancy can be determined in this case is by a proper notice to quit. The presumption of law in the case of every yearly tenancy, in the absence of express agreement to the contrary, is that it is a tenancy determinable by six months' notice terminating on the date the tenancy commenced. The fact of rent being paid quarterly has nothing to do with the matter. Our correspondent is probably a yearly tenant, and is entitled to six months' notice, expiring at the date when he went in,

and until such notice has been given and has expired, the landlord is powerless to raise the rent.]

**87/29. Ican.**—A coroner's officer may certainly take a person (not exempt from jury-service) away from his business for service.

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

**87/36. Outsider.**—We take the letter to be a bit of humour.

**19/56. A. S. (N.S.W.).**—(1) The home-made Remedy for Sore Eyes and Inflamed Lids said to possess wonderful properties is a curious compound. It seems to have been made by mixing olive oil and turpentine with a strong solution of soap. The turpentine is present in small proportion only. (2) Picric Acid for Burns.—A solution of picric acid (100 gr. to 1 pint of water) is used by saturating cottonwool and covering it over the burnt part. (3) There is a recipe for a logwood ink in which chrome alum is employed in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 364. (4) You can make a ticket-ink from a logwood ink by adding gum arabic or solution of waterglass.

**48/57. J. L.**—**Hair-dye.**—Your sample unfortunately got broken in the post, but the trace of liquid remaining in the package when it reached us gives the reactions for pyrogallol. It is possible that in your experiments you did not use a sufficiently strong solution and made no allowance for the fact that a solution of pyrogallol becomes darker on keeping. A little alkali would darken the solution at once.

**72/5. Neuros.**—There is little use of an unqualified chemist's assistant going to any of the British colonies unless he is determined to pass the necessary examinations out there shortly after he arrives, and it is much the better plan to get through the Minor before emigrating, because the certificate is recognised in every part of the Empire except New South Wales. It is impossible for us to advise in individual cases as to the most likely colony which will suit the individual's health, and so forth. That is a matter for personal inquiry.

**71/12. Knights** asks for information in regard to Growing *Mentha Piperita*—where best to obtain the plants; when could they be sent for distillation, and can it be grown for a profit; also, is there any book throwing light upon the subject? [Peppermint-plants could easily be obtained by advertising for them in some exchange column—e.g., the *C. & D.*. There are two forms chiefly cultivated, known respectively as black and white peppermint. The former has purplish stems and the latter green stems and more coarsely-toothed leaves. Black peppermint is said to yield most oil—2½ to 6 lbs. per ton, or 8 to 12 lbs. per acre—but that of white peppermint has a more delicate odour and commands a better price. There are probably in this as in other plants special "strains" that could be selected and would yield a superior article. Large manufacturers like those at Mitcham, Hitchin, and Market Deeping will sometimes buy material, or distil it. But it probably does not pay well to grow peppermint unless the grower can distil it himself and has labour available in August for the purpose of cropping it, as at that season labourers are difficult to hire. Details concerning its cultivation, &c., will be found in "Pharmacographia," and in "Odorographia." Japanese peppermint does not appear to have been grown in this country on a commercial scale for the manufacture of menthol. Indeed, the competition in Japanese and American oils of peppermint prevents any except the finer qualities of Mitcham and Hitchin oil obtaining a very remunerative price. To obtain oil of fine quality requires both judgment and experience. The price of land and of labour, the distance from a market and consequent expense of carriage, the necessary experience in cultivating the plant successfully and in distilling the oil, are factors that must be taken into consideration in calculating the profit to be obtained in cultivating peppermint.]

67/17. *X. Y. Z.*—Phenol Bismuth,  $\text{Bi}(\text{OH})_2(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O})$ , is a greyish, insoluble, almost colourless and tasteless powder containing 80 per cent. of bismuth in combination with 19 per cent. of phenol. It is given in doses of from  $7\frac{1}{2}$  gr. to 30 gr. in gastro-intestinal catarrh and fermentative dyspepsia. Large doses produce no symptoms of phenol-poisoning, due, it has been suggested, to the fact that it is but little decomposed in the intestinal tract.

66/21. *Lotion.*—*Egg Julep.*—A good formula for this was given in the *C. & D.*, September 16, 1899, page 496.

66/36. *C. L. H.*—A Mixture for Vomiting of Pregnancy was given in the *C. & D.*, April 14, page 629.

68/2. *Mabs.*—We do not care to prescribe for your cold. The various treatments are described in "Diseases and Remedies."

69/20. *Book.*—Reference-books.—The following are the books, in addition to the *C. & D.* books, we find most useful for reference:—Squire's "Companion," Martindale's "Extra Pharmacopoeia," "The U.S. Dispensatory," Hager's "Handbuch der pharmaceutischen Praxis," and Dorvaul's "L'Officine."

68/67. *Ebor.*—(1) We are inquiring. (2) We have made up the developer, and do not get a green colour when mixing the two portions. It is possible that one of your chemicals has got contaminated since you made up the first batch.

68/35. *Irishman.*—A non-poisonous Nursery Hair-lotion is made as follows:—

Inf. quassiae conc.	...	...	...	5 <i>iv.</i>
Glyc. boracis	...	...	...	5 <i>j.</i>
Spt. rosmarinii	...	...	...	5 <i>j.</i>
Aq. camph ad	...	...	...	O <i>j.</i>

64/21. *New Subscriber.*—The various fruit-essences are quite suitable for flavouring corn-flour for ice-cream powders.

76/24. *E. T.*—(1) The treatise in the THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1900, on the manufacture of mineral waters is the best that has been published for chemists' use. (2) The powder used for Seltzer-water is a mixture of—

Sodium carbonate	...	...	8 parts
Magnesium carbonate	...	...	10 "
Calcium carbonate	...	...	6 "
Sodium chloride	...	...	34 "

Thirty grains of this powder is the quantity used for each pint of water.

74/64. *G. P. & S.*—Anti-moth Powder:—

Camphor	...	...	...	4 oz.
Patchouli	...	...	...	2 oz.
Black pepper	...	...	...	4 oz.
Cedar-sawdust	...	...	...	1 lb.

Mix.

77/22. *N. P.*—Your one-solution developer is too strong in salts; that is the cause of the crystallisation which takes place. The correct formula is given in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1900, page 267.

44/20. *Syntax.*—Eczema-cream as your sample:—

Lanolini	...	...	...	5 <i>j.</i>
Pulv. tragac.	...	...	...	gr. xxv.
Zinci oxidii	...	...	...	5 <i>ij.</i>
Alcoholis	...	...	...	5 <i>j.</i>
Aque	...	...	...	5 <i>iv.</i>

Make a mucilage with the tragacanth, alcohol and water, and with a portion rub the zinc oxide to a smooth cream. Incorporate the remainder of the mucilage with the lanoline, and finally mix with the zinc cream.

46/27. *Japan.*—Lotion for Baldness.—This we find to consist of—

Ol. camph.	...	...	...	5 <i>ij.</i>
Spt. rosmarinii	...	...	...	5 <i>ij.</i>
Glycerini	...	...	...	5 <i>ss.</i>

It is tinted with the artificial dye magenta. Spirituous preparations such as the above are of great service in

certain conditions of baldness, but hardly to such an extent as to warrant the exuberant praise your friends bestow upon it.

53/50. *Nubes.*—The leading toilet-soap firms pay for displays of their manufactures in chemists' windows in populous towns and most streets, but we question if they would do that in a town such as your own. Still, you may try them.

44/19. *Bobs.*—(1) *Asthma-vaporant.*—This appears to be a mixture of the three cresols—ortho, meta, and para cresol. It is obtainable in commerce under the name of cresylic acid and is considered to be much less poisonous than carbolic acid. (2) *The Indigestion-mixture* is not elegant. The following modification will make an equally efficacious and better looking mixture:—

Bismuthi carb.	...	...	...	gr. clx.
Sodii bicarb.	...	...	...	gr. clx.
Mag. carb. levii	...	...	...	gr. clx.
Spt. amm. arom.	...	...	...	5 <i>iv.</i>
Aq. chloroformi ad	...	...	...	5 <i>viiij.</i>

M. 5*ss.* ter in die post cibos.

62/74. *Forward.*—Thanks for your letter; but a discussion of a cycle-tax and the formation of a special section of public highways for cyclists would not be suitable for the *C. & D.*

47/20. *Inquirer.*—“Succory-juice” is the juice of the wild chicory, *Cichorium intybus*; “carduus-juice” that of the blessed thistle, *Carduus benedictus*. What is meant by “Duke cherries” we do not know for certain, but perhaps the term is a corruption of juice of the great celandine. The reason we think so is that in the early part of the century aq. cardui benedicti, aq. eichorii, and aq. chelidonii were three favourite ingredients in alterative mixtures.

68/65. *A. B.*—Paris green is arsenate of copper. It is much used as an insecticide, and 6*lb.* per lb. is about the price for small quantities. Try your wholesale house for it.

51/60. *J. S. C.*—*Rheumatism-mixture.*—The following is based on an analysis of your sample:—

Tr. cinchone	...	...	...	5 <i>iv.</i>
Potass. bicarbon.	...	...	...	5 <i>ij.</i>
Spt. amm. arom.	...	...	...	5 <i>j.</i>
Syr. aurantii	...	...	...	5 <i>iv.</i>
Aqua ad	...	...	...	5 <i>ij.</i>

Dose: One tablespoonful two or three times a day in water.

58/54. *Phenalgin.*—Dorvaul's “L'Officine” is the French work on pharmacy corresponding to Squire's “Companion.”

58/34. *Lopez.*—(1) *Mange-powder for Dogs.*—This consists of boric acid, sulphur, and creolin. (2) *The Canker-powder for Dogs' Ears* has a somewhat similar composition.

65/54. *E. McL.*—The difficulty you will find in relying on your own judgment in Buying a Business is that you only get the necessary experience after a few transactions. It is for this reason that the advice of a well-established transfer-agent is of value. There is no book published on the subject.

63/58. *A. G. S. C.*—The colour of the light-brown camera-case may be darkened by applying liquid ammonia. When the case is dry it should be given a coat of brown-boot polish.

77/55. *Cloudy.*—The deposit which forms in the household ammonia you make is probably due to the presence of some lime salts. Distilled water should always be employed, and hard soap in preference to curd soap.

62/69. *S. S.*—The pills require some powdered tragacanth to make them keep their shape. Without knowing the quantities of the several ingredients we cannot say how much will be needed.

81/45. *Dawn.*—*Cod-liver Oil Wine.*—See *C. & D.*, December 9, 1899, page 962.

75/43. *Shamrock*.—Formula for Dry-plates.—The methods given in Sir W. de W. Abney's "Instruction in Photography" (Sampson Low, 3s. 6d.) are the best we know of. To reproduce the directions there given would take up too much space in this column, so we must refer you to the book itself.

80/14. *Stain*.—The Sarsaparilla-wine sold by herbalists is prepared from a similar formula to the following:—

Dec. sarsæ co. cone	...	...	...	5ij.
Vin. xeric	...	...	...	3ij.
Glycerini	...	...	...	3j.
Aq. ad	...	...	...	0j.

Filter bright.

10/5. *Bleacher*.—The colour of tripe is improved by soaking in milk of lime.

79/62. *Xylem*.—Carbon-paper is made by rubbing a paste of equal parts of lampblack, castor oil, and lard into soft unglazed paper. After a day the superfluous paste is wiped off. If blue paper is desired, powdered Prussian blue is used in place of lampblack.

78/4. *Switzerland*.—Obscuring Windows.—We do not know the article you mention, but over here a solution of magnesium sulphate or alum, in a weakly saccharine solution, such as beer, is painted on the inside of windows it is desired to render opaque.

81/6. *E. O. R.*—Grease-paint for imitating the colour of the skin of a North American Indian.—This is made by mixing levigated yellow ochre and brown umber with vaseline and hard paraffin, diluting, if necessary, with prepared chalk or zinc oxide.

83/56. *G. F. G. G.*—Restoring Rancid Oil.—Shaking the oil with oxidising-agents, such as solution of potassium bichromate or potassium permanganate and sulphuric acid, is the usual method adopted for restoring rancid oils. A newer method is to pass ozone through the oil (see *C. & D.*, December 10, 1898, page 940). The oils thus treated must not be used internally.

83/43. *Tannin*.—The formula for Glycerinum Aeidi Borici in the B.P., 1898, is the equivalent of boroglyceride, which was a patented article. The directions given in the B.P. must be followed exactly, as if any water is left in the finished preparation boric acid will most likely be deposited.

62/64. *Old Subscriber*.—Selling a Business.—It is usual for the purchaser to take over the whole stock and fixtures. Occasionally some special article, such as x-ray apparatus, may not be desired by the purchaser, and when the articles not required are movable the seller does not usually insist upon them being taken. Valuation of the stock is made upon the basis of a current-price list agreed upon between the parties, subject to discount. Goodwill is paid for in first-class businesses, but it can no longer be considered the universal custom, and rarely is the goodwill worth more than one year's net profit of the business. Any proprietary articles originated by the seller which are of special value are either retained by the seller or sold by him to the purchaser for a consideration distinct from the value of the business; but it does not often happen that a proprietary article is attached to a retail business which is worth a consideration apart from the stock-in-trade generally. The seller usually supplies the purchaser with the formulae for the counter-specialities which have been sold in the shop in the usual retail way. If the seller's name has been attached to these articles, he should be careful to limit the use of his name by the purchaser, and to retain the right to put his article on the market independent of the purchaser. Fixtures are taken over at a valuation. If they have been placed in the ordinary manner—that is, not built into the walls—the landlord has no more power over them than he has over the stock. When the preliminary agreement is come to between the parties, the intending purchaser pays a small sum—5*l.* or 10*l.*—to clinch the bargain. If you want further information on this subject you should consult a transfer-agent, who will be able to advise you in the particular circumstances of your whole case. We have dealt with your questions in a general manner only.

73/7. *S. & Co. (Hamburg)*.—Sugar of milk is chiefly used as a food; a smaller quantity is used in pharmacy as a diluent.

72/74. *G. D.*—Chrysophanic-acid Stains are somewhat difficult to remove. If it is the ointment that has caused the stains, apply benzine to remove the grease, and then solution of chlorinated lime, adding some caustic soda in cases where the stains are obstinate.

### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

85/59. What is "oil of mushroom"?

88/65. What are the cost and working-expenses of a water-still, gas being used for heating? Annual amount of distilled water required about 350 gals.

### The Trio.

*Three little birds on the Council tree,  
Sit in the light of noon;  
And the Owl had declared "It could not be,  
Not once in a blue, blue moon."  
So his blank dismay is a sight to see,  
For his dirge they seem to croon.*

Quoth the first gay Bird, "They have smiled and frowned,  
And sneered at me—and Pata;  
But they wot not the Day of the Great Rebound,  
Now I'll prod them *pro re nata*."

Quoth the wise Grey Bird, "For these thirty years  
With the Slothful I've been warring;  
Now I'll drop the pen, and will crush th' *air*sneers  
With clean-cut verbal sparring."

Quoth the last new Bird, "I've spoken the word  
That has dropped like lead new-molten  
In the midst of the slumbering, peaceful horde;  
Let them look to the Bird from Bolton."

*So the three little birds, quite vigorously,  
Will rouse the Nest up soon,  
While the big Owl hoots in the Bloom-Berry tree  
From the break of day till noon,  
And sighs for the times that used to be  
With a face like a blue, blue moon.*

### A "Herboristery" in London.

THE *Daily Express* has unearched a French herbalist in Soho who issues an Anglo-French advertisement about certain ailments. The following are a few examples of the way he does it:—

Si vous manquez d'appétit—If you fall of appetite.  
Si avous avez des aigreurs, des renvois—If you got bale.  
Si vous souffrez de l'estomac—If you suffer of stomak.  
Si vous avez des eaux brûlantes et de la bile—If you got the hart burn.  
Si vous souffrez de maux de reins—If you got peine in baek.  
Si vous êtes sujet aux clous, boutons—If you have paruples in face.  
Si vous toussiez et avez de la fièvre—If you have eouyk or fever.  
Si vous n'avez plue de sommeil—If you suffer from sleepness.  
Si vos bêbés sont souffrants—If your baby are suffering.  
Si vous perdez vos cheveux—If you loss your hairs.  
Les poisons amènent toujours, tot ou tard, des desordres dans le corps de l'homme—The poisons baves allways disorders in body.

In order to keep the pharmaceutical poison-finders away from the place he adds:—

Il n'est tenu aucun poison dans es'te shop—It does not keep poisons in this shop.

## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

### 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: May 24.

THERE has been nothing very striking in the markets this week, and alterations in prices previous to the drug-auctions were few and unimportant. The demand for citric and tartaric acids and cream of tartar is maintained, especially for the first-named article, which is hardening as the consuming season approaches. In essential oils, lemon is dearer, while bergamot and orange are firm. Cod-liver oil is offering cheaply, but there is no demand. Shellac was higher in auction and isinglass was lower. Druggists' opium has been in fair demand, but other grades are neglected. Quinine has had a quiet week. Other changes of the week are as follows:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Acid, citric	Ammonia sulphate	Acid, carbolic	Cardamoms
Oil, almond	Benzols	Ergot	Isinglass
Shellac	Borax	Galls (Chinese)	Kino
Storax	Cream of	Spermaceti	Oil, anise, star
	tartar	(Chil.)	Oil, cod-liver
	Oil, lemon		Oil, lemongrass
	Potashes		
	Wax, Japan (c.i.f.)		

### Arrivals.

The following is a list of drugs, &c., that have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from May 17 to 23, both inclusive:—Aniseed (Russ.), 25; aniseed oil (Chin.), 24; arrowroot (W.I.), 2,222; asafetida (Persian), 29; benzoin, 57; bismuth (Aust.), 4; camphor, 1; cardamoms, 148; caraway-seed, 219; cascara sagrada, 10; cassia oil, 20; castor oil (Fr.), 95; cinchona, (Java) 110, (Ceylon) 56, (from Penang) 30; cocoa butter, 12; cod-liver oil, 19; ergot of rye, 15; eucalyptus oil, 20; galangal, 40; gall (Persian), 654; gentian, 19; ginger, (Jam.) 489, (Jap.) 114; honey, (Amst.) 56, (Chil.) 230, (Jam.) 66; insect-powder, 30; iodine, 81; ippecacuanha (Rio), 94; kola (W.I.), 1; lime-juice (W.I.), 126; liquorice-root, 105; lemon-juice, 13; myrrh, 21; nux vomica (Calcutta), 456; opium, 40; quicksilver, 888; quinine, 19 cases; rhubarb, 32; senna-mulberry-root, 3; senna (Alex.), 13; tamarinds (W.I.), 218; turmeric, (E.I.) 187, (Chin.) 240; vanilla, 23; wax, (Chil.) 39, (Jap.) 328.

### Royalty on 'Change.

Amongst those who were on 'Change on Tuesday were the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York. They did not call to get a quotation for otto, but to pay a brief visit to Lloyd's after having with the Trinity Brethren, lunched at the Mansion House. They were recognised by wholesale druggists and brokers as they passed through the ambulatory, and acknowledged the hearty cheer which arose from the quadrangle.

### The Exportation of Picric Acid.

It is officially announced that the prohibition now subsisting under Her Majesty's Proclamation of January 11 last, on the exportation out of the United Kingdom or the carrying coastwise of picric acid (trinitro-phenol), trinitro cresol, carbolic acid (phenol), and cresylic acid (cresol) is taken off.

### The Next Drug-auctions.

Before commencing his sale at to-day's auctions Mr. Andrew Devitt (Messrs. Lewis & Peat) asked if it was the wish of those

attending the sales that the fortnightly drug-auctions should be held on June 7, that being Thursday in Whitsun-week. Mr. Leonard Horner thereupon proposed, Mr. Arnold Baiss seconded, and it was agreed, that no sales be held in Whitsun-week, but that the next drug-auctions be held on this day four weeks, June 21, when new and old goods will be offered.

### Heavy Chemicals.

*[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]*

At all the main centres the condition of the heavy-chemical market continues very satisfactory, and a good all-round business is being transacted. There are practically no new features of special importance to be reported. Export business is heavier, and values generally maintain a firm tone at unchanged rates. Stocks are not heavy.

**ALKALI-PRODUCE.**—The all-round demand continues good and steady, and this is particularly the case for bleaching-powder, caustic soda, and ammonia alkali. Caustic tends dearer, but at present shows no alteration. Soda crystals are in heavier request, whilst chlorates are quieter.

**LEAD SALTS** are firm and in good request. Sugar of lead, white, 24l. 10s. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow; sugar of lead, brown, 20l. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow; nitrate of lead, 25l. 5s. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow.

**BENZOLS** are firmer and dearer, 90 per cent. at 8d. and 50 per cent. at 10d. to 10½d.

**ZINC SALTS** are moving well at unchanged rates. Sulphate of zinc crystals, 7l. 5s. to 7l. 7s. 6d. per ton; chloride-of-zinc solution, 100° Tw., 7l. 5s. to 7l. 10s. per ton; pure chloride-of-zinc cake, 1s. to 1s. 2d. per lb.

**WHITE-POWDERED ARSENIC** in brisk demand and somewhat scarce. Price is firmly maintained at 20d. per ton, ex-ship Garston.

**SULPHOCYANIDES** unchanged and rather dull of sale. Potassium, 6½d. per lb.; barium, 95 per cent., 4d. per lb.; ammonium, 95 per cent., 6d. per lb.

**MAGNESIUM SALTS** are steady and in fair inquiry. Sulphate (Epsom salts), 60s. to 62s. 6d. per ton in bags free on rail; carbonate of magnesia, 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt.; calcined magnesia, 1s. to 1s. 4d. per lb.; chloride of magnesium, 60s. per ton.

**LINSEED AND COTTONSEED-CAKES** are in fairly brisk request and prices all round are steady. Linseed, 95 per cent. pure, 8d. 10s. to 8l. 15s. per ton; oil-cakes, 7l. 10s. to 7l. 15s. per ton; cotton-cakes, best makes, 4l. 15s. to 4l. 17s. 6d.; and seconds, 4l. 10s. to 4l. 15s.

**SULPHATE OF COPPER** is somewhat quieter at 24l. 10s. per ton. Liverpool, 25l. 10s. per ton.

**BROWN ACETATE OF LIME** continues to move steadily, and price is firmly maintained at 6l. 15s. to 7l. per ton.

**SULPHATE OF AMMONIA** is firmer again, and also a shade dearer. Present figures are about as follows:—Beckton, 11l. 10s.; Beckton terms, 11l. 5s.; Leith and London, 11l. 7s. 6d.; Hull, 11l. 5s. to 11l. 6s. 3d.

### Liverpool Drug Market.

*Liverpool, May 23.*

**CASTOR OIL.**—Good Calcutta seconds has made no further upward move during the week, but holders are still quoting 3½d. per lb. on the spot and higher rates forward. In the meantime, French has been making approaches to a nearer parity with the Calcutta, and sales in quantity of several tons at a time have been made of first pressure at 3½d. per lb., and this is now the quotation for this grade and first-pressure Belgian and English. Second-pressure French is held for 3½d. Madras is held for 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb.

**QUILLIA-BARK.**—Trade remains quiet, and values range from 13l. to 13l. 10s. per ton. About 20 tons have been sold this week.

**GINGER, AFRICAN.**—Two tons of low grade changed hands at 23s. per cwt., but 27s. 6d. to 30s. is still asked for good sound root.

**GUM ACACIA.**—The advance established in Soudan sorts is fully maintained, but, although no business has resulted at the higher figures, holders are very firm in their views.

**SPERMACETI.**—Twenty-one cases of Chilian changed hands after auction at 1s. 3d. per lb. A further parcel of 15 cases offered at auction brought forth no bids.

**BEESWAX.**—Fourteen bags yellow Chilian have been sold at 7l. 10s. per cwt., and dull Chilian is held at 7l. 5s.; prime yellow, 7l. 15s. Three bags medium yellow changed hands at 7l. 12s. 6d. per cwt.

**HONEY.**—There is no quotable change in the values of Chilian, Californian, or Jamaican, and the business passing during the week has been more or less nominal. Thirty-nine barrels Pile X. Chilian have been sold at 30s. 6d. per cwt. to clear the parcel. Small sales of Californian have been made at 42s. 6d. per cwt., and a few cases Jamaican at 32s. 6d.

**SULPHATE OF COPPER.**—Steady, at 25l. 10s. to 26l. per ton.

**OIL, TURPENTINE.**—Selling, in limited quantities, at 46s. per cwt., the advance of last week having been fully maintained.

CANARY-SEED has assumed a quiet tone, and the value may be said to range from 34s. to 34s. 6d. per qr.; but the business passing is very unimportant.

CHILLIES, S.L.—Business passing is very limited, but values remain at 45s. to 50s. per cwt. for fair to good bright.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—Good Egyptian is offering at 6s. 6d. per cwt. for small parcels, or 6s. in 10-ton lots.

LINSEED has improved during the week, and 56s. per qr. has been paid for a large parcel of River Plate.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Eight barrels of a recent arrival of ordinary cloudy Maranham have been sold on the basis of 1s. 5d. per lb.

WAX, CARNAUBA.—Yellow has been in more demand, fair ordinary having sold at 95s. up to 105s. Easier rates have been paid for Maranham grey—viz., 77s. 6d. to 80s. per cwt. for 33 bags.

### German Drug Market.

Hamburg, May 22.

Our drug-market is quiet and shows little business at present.

BALSAM PERU is quiet; 44 cases have arrived. Present value is about 12m. per kilo.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) is very firm, at 480m. per 100 kilos. in second hands. First-hand is still unchanged.

CITRIC-ACID continues firm, at 295m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA-SEED is easier, at 72½m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE is quiet, and shows very little business at 310m. to 320m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPODIUM is quiet and little doing; to-day's quotation is 485m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is dull and unchanged, at 17½m. per kilo.

QUININE is still neglected; second-hand holders quote 42½m. per kilo.

SANTONIN is unchanged, but second-hand holders appear to be cleared out.

STORAX is very firm, and has considerably advanced to 120m. to 125m. per 100 kilos. The stocks are almost cleared.

WAX (JAPANESE) is firmer in consequence of higher prices from the East. Spot to-day 57m. per 100 kilos.

OILS.—Cod-liver is very quiet and lower, at 80m. per barrel. Rape is very firm and advancing, at 60m. per 100 kilos. Linseed is still rising, while cottonseed oil is declining.

ESSENTIAL OILS are mostly unchanged.

### Cablegrams.

NEW YORK, May 24, 2.56 P.M.:—The market is quiet. Buchu-leaves are easy, at 15c. per lb. Refined camphor has a strong tendency, the price being 60c. per lb. Jalap, at 11½c., is active, and balsam Peru dull at \$1.25. Hydrastis canadensis, new crop, 47c. Sarsaparilla is easier, the price now standing at 7½c. Serpentaria-root is scarce at 37c., and oil of peppermint has declined 3c. per lb.

\* \* \* \* \*

BERGEN, May, 23, 7.35 P.M.:—Although the weather in the Finmarken districts continues to hinder the fishing, the catch is reported to be fair. The total up to date amounts to 28,506,000 fish, against 28,550,000 fish at the corresponding period of last year. This is expected to yield 24,370 barrels of refined oil, against 27,513 barrels last year. The market remains slow at 74s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen.

### London Markets.

ACID, CAREOLIC.—Easier. Ice crystals 39° to 40° C. are now quoted 10½d. to 11d. per lb. 34° to 35° C. 10d. to 10½d., Cresylic 95 per cent., 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. per gallon. Crude 60 per cent., 2s. 7½d. to 2s. 9d., and 75 per cent., 3s. 1d. to 3s. 3d.

ACID, CITRIC, is again firmer. On Wednesday there were second hand sellers of English at 1s. 4½d. per lb., and buyers at 1s. 4½d. Makers are selling in small quantities only, and at present have no "official" quotation. It is said that in the present state of the juice market they are unwilling to advance the price of acid, fearing that raw material would also advance. It looks as if the experience of last season were to be repeated. To-day nothing is obtainable below 1s. 4½d.

ARROWROOT continues dull. St. Vincents at auction on Wednesday was bought in at 2½d. to 3½d. per lb.

BORAX is in good demand at the convention rates of 17s. per cwt. for crystals and 18s. for powder. There were several rumours on Wednesday of an impending advance.

COCOA-BUTTER.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on June 5 will consist of 90 tons Van Houten's, 7½ tons Helm, 4 tons De Jong, and 2 tons Holland.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—The tendency is said to be firmer owing to a good business having been done on the spot. Prices are unaltered, powder being quoted at 80s. per cwt. for B.P. quality.

GALLS.—Japanese are quoted 63s. per cwt., c.i.f., and Chinese are slightly lower for arrival—viz., 68s., c.i.f. All kinds of Persian are quiet and unchanged: a few cases of blue have been sold at 90s. spot. In auction 10 bags of blue Persian sold at from 86s. to 90s. per cwt.

GENTIAN.—Small sales have been made on the spot at from 17s. to 17s. 6d. per cwt. New crop is offered for forward delivery at 17s. f.o.b.

GERMAN MEDICINAL DRUGS.—The following are the current quotations (per cwt., c.i.f., London or Liverpool) of some of the principal German medicinal drugs, taken in large wholesale quantities:—Aconite-root, 45s. to 50s.; belladonna-root, 40s.; colchicum-root 32s.; white-hellebore root powder, 23s.; black-hellebore root, 22s.; stavesacre-seeds, 25s.; and taraxacum, root, whole 34s., cut ditto 38s., per cwt.

GLYCERIN keeps firm, English makers quoting 61s. to 62s. per cwt. in cases, and 4s. less in drums. German brands are quoted 64s. to 65s. for double distilled, s.g. 1:260.

GUM TRAGACANTH.—Quiet, with retail sales at steady prices. Supplies of gum between 10l. and 12l. 10s. per cwt. are small, but the market is well supplied with other kinds. Retail sales of Bussorah *Hog* gum have been made at 55s.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—Reports concerning the new crop of Dalmatian flowers are favourable, and it is expected that the gathering will take place during the next fortnight. The results will depend on the weather. Business in Trieste during May was very slow owing to the imminent new crop. The e. and f. prices on May 15 were: For closed flowers, 82s. to 110s.; half-closed, 50s. to 67s.; and open, 44s. to 45s. per cwt.

ISINGLASS.—The periodical auctions on Tuesday went off quietly, only about one-third of the total offered (918 packages) selling at lower prices for all descriptions. Penang was freely offered, but the greater part sold at 2d. to 4d. decline: West Inliau 2d. to 3d. lower; Brazil and Para 1d. to 2d. lower.

MENTHOL.—Second-hand holders say the market is firmer this week, but it is not justified by the demand; 8s. is quoted for Kobayashi crystals.

OIL, ALMOND.—English has again been advanced 1d. per lb., the present quotation now being 1s. 9d. per lb. for sweet, and 2d. extra for *pollid*.

OIL, BERGAMOT, has still an upward tendency, as much as 7s. 10d. per lb. being asked in one direction for 40-per-cent oil, and 7s. 8d. for 38-per-cent. In auction two half-coppers sold "without reserve" at 3s. 11d. per lb., net.

OIL, CASSIA.—The cheap offers of the "stolen" parcels to arrive now appear to be at an end, and the market is reported to be firmer in consequence. For 80 to 85 per cent. oil 3s. 8d. per lb. has been paid on the spot for single case lots; for 75 to 80 per cent. 3s. 5d. is wanted, and 70 to 75 per cent. 3s. 2d. per lb. In auction 10 cases (79 per cent.) were bought in at 3s. 3d. per lb.

OIL, CINNAMON.—Leaf-oil has been sold at 1½d. to 1½d. per oz.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—Small sales in drums have been made at 11d. per lb., and tins at 11½d.; to arrive there are sellers at 10d., c.i.f., in drums.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—There is a total absence of business on this market and prices are nominal: 72s. 6d. to 75s. per barrel, c.i.f., is quoted in one direction for non-congealing oil.

BERGEN, May 19.—The fishing at Finmarken last week has been considerably hindered by the weather, but in spite of this fact the total catch up to date is larger than that at the corresponding period of last year. The cods are also very fat, and the largest part of the liver is still being steamed. The market is slowly but surely weakening, Lofoten non-congealing oil being now quoted at 73s. per barrel, f.o.b. The exports to date from Bergen amount to 3,135 barrels, against 4,428 barrels at the same time last year.

**OIL, LEMON.**—From Messina quotations are firmer this week, owing to a better demand on the part of exporters. Some sellers quote from 3s. 3d. to 3s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f. In auction two cases "F. Saitta" brand sold "without reserve" at 2s. 6d. per lb. Another lot of ten half-coppers, also offered "without reserve," realised 1s. 10d. per lb., net. As a general rule the quality of goods sold "without reserve" is not guaranteed.

**OIL, ORANGE.**—In more demand, genuine sweet oil being quoted 6s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f., and bitter, which is very scarce in Sicily, at 7s. 9d.

**OIL, PEPPERMINT.**—Quiet. There are spot sellers of Japanese dementholised at 3s. 3d. per lb., and 40 per cent. 5s. 6d. American HGH can be had at 5s. 2d. to 5s. 3d., and so-called "Wayne-County," 4s.

**OIL, STAR ANISE.**—It is reported that sales have been made at cheaper rates this week, from 5s. 5d. to 5s. 6d. per lb., being paid for a 25-case lot; but it is said that there is no more obtainable under 5s. 6d. per lb.

**OIL, TURPENTINE.**—A considerable business has been done for forward delivery this week at advanced rates. Spot is also dearer at 4s. 3d. per cwt. for American.

**OPIUM.**—A fair demand is reported this week for "druggists'" qualities at 9s. 3d. per lb., but other grades are quiet. Good to fine soft-shipping is worth 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d., and seconds ditto 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per lb. In Persian no business has been done; a small lot in second-hand is offered at 13s. 6d. To-day an advance of 6d. in Smyrna is reported.

**SMYRNA, May 11.**—Most of the business effected this week is for new opium to be delivered next August or September at 7s. 10d. to 8s. per lb., mostly on account of Constantinople firms. Besides the above, eight cases of old and new Karahissar have been taken by workers of Youghouma at from 8s. 11d. to 9s. 1d. per lb., c.i.f. An American buyer offered 8s. 5d. for a quantity of current talequale, but sellers refused to accept such a low figure. The arrivals to date amount to 2,565 cases, against 1,327 cases at the same period last year. The present stock in Turkey is estimated at 1,380 cases, as follows:—Constantinople, 80; Smyrna, 1,100; and Interior, 200 cases.

**CONSTANTINOPLE, May 18.**—There have been no transactions during the past week, and until the new crop comes in this market will probably be a dead letter owing to short stocks. New crop conditions continue as favourable as ever.

**QUININE** has been a dull market throughout. On Wednesday a small business was done at 1s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for October delivery, but to-day no transactions were reported, August being quoted at 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and October delivery at 1s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per oz.

There were no exports from Java during February, but from July 1, 1899, to February 28, 1900, the shipments were 1,047 cases, against 842 cases for the same period of 1898-99.

**SAFFRON** is in good demand at from 36s. to 38s. 6d. per lb., the latter figure being for finest Valencia.

**SHELLAC.**—In auction on Tuesday there was a good demand at full to about 1s. per cwt. higher rates, second orange TN remaining at 60s. Of 523 cases offered 222 sold, second orange, good pale part blocky, 66s. to 67s.; good bright, 64s.; pale block, 59s.; unworked, fine bright cakey to blocky, 67s.; fair red cakey, 59s.; and flat livery, 58s.; Garnet, Rangoon, thin ruby, 58s.; and hard block, 55s. per cwt. Privately there has been a steady demand on the spot at full to dearer rates.

**SPICES.**—The market has been steady without any material change in values, but at the same time transactions have been small. At the public sales on Wednesday Cochin *Ginger* sold at 30s. 6d. to 32s. per cwt. for good washed rough, and cuttings at 25s. per cwt. Calicut brown rough was bought in at 32s., medium cut Cochin at 70s., and medium and small native cut at 52s. 6d. per cwt. Japan was bought in at 25s. per cwt. for limed rough. Jamaican was partly sold at steady rates, the better qualities being in most demand; middling washed sold at 60s. to 65s., and fair to good at 67s. to 73s. per cwt. There were no Zanzibar *Cloves* offered, but privately they are firmer at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for June-August delivery. A small lot of good Ceylon sold at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and fair picked Penang were held for 8d. per lb. Fine red picked African Chillies sold at 55s. 6d. per cwt. and good Japan were bought in at 50s. per cwt. Natal *Capsicums* were withdrawn at 95s. per cwt., yellow East Indian pods off stalk at 30s., bright red cherries at 40s., and

long red on stalk at 38s. per cwt. *Pimento* flat, a few lots sold, good at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and common at 3d. per lb. *Cinnamon-chips* were bought in at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *Cassia-lignea* sold at 41s. to 41s. 6d. per cwt. for new import, while old was bought in at 52s. 6d. The parcels of broken offered were bought in at 28s. to 36s., and good chips at 45s. per cwt. *Pepper* quiet, good to fine Ceylon sold at 6d. to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., and fine Mangalore at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Singapore is quoted 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on the spot. Penang white was bought in at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and Singapore and Siam at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

**STORAX.**—Reports from the producing districts in Asia Minor state that the gathering of the gum has officially been forbidden, in order to allow the trees, which have been overworked, to grow again. In these circumstances values are higher.

### London Drug-auctions.

Moderate supplies of both "new and old" goods were offered in auction to-day by fourteen brokers, but unfortunately some of the goods catalogued were not placed on view in time for inspection on Tuesday, and this necessarily caused a certain amount of inconvenience to buyers. Cardamoms of medium quality were again in large supply, as were also buchu leaves, calumba, rhubarb, and beeswax, especially Madagascar. The following table shows the number of original packages offered and sold:—

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aconite.....	10	0	Ipecacuanha—		
Aloes (Cape).....	29	4	(Cartagena).....	25	0
Curaçao.....	280	280	(Rio).....	44	16
Socotrine.....	24	0	Jalap.....	10	0
Ammoniacum.....	3	0	Kamala.....	8	0
Aniseed.....	20	0	Kino.....	7	6
Antimony.....	40	0	Kola.....	25	0
Areca-nuts.....	43	20	Lemon-juice.....	17	17
Argol.....	3	3	Lime-juice.....	62	0
Asafetida.....	99	20	Liquorice-root.....	36	0
Asphaltum.....	59	0	Musk.....	13	2
Balsam, copaiba.....	10	5	Myrrh.....	38	6
Peru.....	7	1	Nux vomica.....	44	0
Tolu.....	5	0	Oil, anise, star	2	0
Benzoin—			bay.....	3	0
Palembang.....	109	109	bergamot.....	2	0
Siam.....	30	0	cajuput.....	44	0
Sumatra.....	149	23	cassia.....	10	0
Buchu.....	69	0	cinnamon.....	3	0
Calumba.....	269	2	eucalyptus.....	61	7
Cannabis indica.....	119	0	lemon.....	12	12
Canella alba.....	10	10	lemongrass.....	9	9
Cantharides.....	2	0	limes.....	1	0
Cardamoms.....	648	263	nutmeg.....	6	0
Cascara sagrada.....	14	14	sassafras.....	2	0
Cascarilla.....	42	20	wintergreen.....	2	0
Chillies.....	25	0	ylang-ylang.....	1	0
Chiretta.....	10	0	Orange-peel.....	48	4
Cinchona.....	101	31	Orris.....	59	16
Coca-leaves.....	3	0	Patchouli-leaves.....	3	0
Cocculus Indicus.....	64	0	Pitch.....	11	0
Colocynth.....	23	0	Quince-seed.....	7	7
Coriander-seed.....	30	0	Rhatany.....	32	0
Croton-seed.....	31	0	Rhubarb.....	167	32
Cubeb.....	255	0	Saffron.....	33	0
Cumin-seed.....	21	0	Sarsaparilla.....	48	18
Cuttle-fish.....	9	1	Scammonium.....	11	0
Dill-seed.....	20	0	Scammon-root.....	20	20
Dragon's-blood.....	8	4	Senna—		
Ergot of rye.....	12	0	Alexandrian.....	109	0
Fenugreek.....	15	0	Mecca.....	37	0
Galangal.....	2	0	Tinnevelly.....	12	11
Galbanum.....	13	0	Soy.....	25	0
Galls.....	10	10	Squills.....	14	2
Gamboge.....	40	0	Sunflower-seed.....	8	0
Ground nuts.....	25	0	Tonka-beans.....	7	1
Guaiacum.....	7	0	Tragacanth.....	4	0
Gum acacia.....	307	13	Turmeric.....	232	0
elemi.....	6	0	Turtle, dried.....	2	0
mastic.....	16	0	Vanilla.....	7	0
Honey.....	156	6	Wax (bees').....	1055	58
Insect-powder.....	9	9	Japanese.....	50	0

**ACONITE.**—Japanese-root was held for 30s. per cwt.

**ALOES.**—A parcel of 280 boxes Curaçao aloes "per land carriage" was offered, but with the exception of two lots (20 boxes) the quality was ordinary dull brown livery to

black and drossy, which fetched from 13s. 6d. to 17s. per cwt., and medium to fair brown liver 23s. 6d. Privately, fine grades are scarce and bring full prices. Socotrine was represented by 24 kegs, mostly soft and of fair flavour, but they did not sell. Of Cape, 29 cases were shown; good bright hard aloes were held for 30s., and ordinary seconds sold at 28s. to 23s. 6d. per cwt.

ANISEED.—Fair Spanish was limited at 25s. per cwt.

ARECA-NUTS.—Fair, but slightly wormy quality from Colombo, sold at 17s. per cwt.

ARGOL.—Two bags from the Cape brought 41s. 6d. per cwt.

ASAFETIDA.—The bulk of the offerings were bought in at nominal prices. About 20 cases that were salvaged from the recent fire at the docks were offered "without reserve," and sold at from 10s. 6d. to 13s. per cwt for very heavy and mixed block, and from 9s. to 9s. 6d. for dark and heavy broken brown block.

BALSAM, COPAIBA.—Good bright thick Maraeaibo, "guaranteed B.P." quality, was bought in at 1s. 8d. per lb. Five cases had been sold privately. For one cask of thick cloudy Maranham 1s. 7½d. per lb. was wanted.

BALSAM, PERU.—Two parcels were offered, both of indifferent quality, but one case only sold at 6s. per lb.

BENZOIN.—Quiet. Fair to good pale almondly Sumatra seconds, well-packed, sold at 7s. 5s. to 7s. 15s. per cwt. Palembang was in more demand to-day, and sold at steady rates, fair greyish seconds part barky realising 51s. 6d. to 52s. 6d., and ditto in small tins 52s. 6d. to 53s. 6d. per cwt. Siam did not sell; fine bold almonds were held for 15s. 10s. and bean size 10s. 10s. per cwt.

BUCHU-LEAVES were again in plentiful supply, but no business was effected publicly. Several parcels of fair green round leaf were limited at 5d. to 6d. per lb.

CALUMBA.—There was no business done publicly, but a fair business is reported by private treaty, good natural sorts having sold at 25s. In auction good bright yellow washed was held for 55s. per cwt.

CANELLA ALBA.—Fair to boldish quill realised 40s. per cwt., and sea-damaged 36s.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Several parcels were offered to-day, and one broker intimated that his instructions were to sell, but no bid at 1s. was obtainable for fair greenish tops.

CANTHARIDES.—Two casks of good bright Russian flies were limited at 2s. 2d. per lb. net.

CARDAMOMS.—In auction fine qualities met a decline of about 2d. per lb.; other grades were irregular, but generally lower. Seeds were also cheaper. The following prices were paid:—Ceylon-Mysores: Medium to bold pale, 3s. 9d. to 3s. 10d.; second size, 2s. 9d. to 3s.; medium to bold dull, 2s. 6d., subject; medium ditto, 2s. to 2s. 1d.; medium pale long, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 11d.; small to medium pale long, 2s. 3d., 2s. 4d., 2s. 5d.; very small pale, 1s. 2d.; brown and open, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d.; small pale splits, 1s. 1d. Ceylon-Malabars, medium brown, 1s. 8d. Mangalore were not in demand. Seed realised from 1s. 11d. to 2s. per lb.

The exports from Ceylon for the week ending April 30 were 14,924 lbs., and from January 1 to April 30 they have been:—

1900	1899	1898	1897
Lbs. ... 233,425	193,483	286,933	189,553

CASCARILLA.—Bold silvery quill was bought in at 65s.; siftings sold at 25s. per cwt.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—A parcel of old quilly bark imported in 1895 brought from 24s. to 26s. per cwt.

CINCHONA.—At the drug-auctions 7 bales of Suceirubra-root offered and bought in at 7½d. per lb. About 31 bales of flat Calisaya sold at 6d. per lb.

The exports from Ceylon for the week ending April 30 were 20,669 lbs. From January 1 to April 30 they have been:—

1900	1899	1898	1897
Lbs. ... 136,468	251,937	284,371	273,569

The total weight of the 4,314 packages to be offered at Amsterdam on June 7 amounts to 368,002 kilos. as follows:—Ledgeriana, 240,156 kilos.; Succirubra, 62,863 kilos.; hybrid, 55,208 kilos.; and Calisaya, 9,775 kilos. In addition to the above 48,707 kilos. have been added to the auctions, now bringing the total to 4,984 packages (416,709 kilos.).

COCA-LEAVES.—Ceylon descriptions were the only kind offered; the broker refused a bid of 1s. 2½d. per lb. for nice green leaves.

COLOCYNTH was offered by one broker only; small to bold Turkey apple was held for 1s. 4d. per lb., and three cases of Persian previously offered sold at 4d. per lb.

CUTTLE-FISH BONE.—A case of dull brownish bone from Mangalore sold at 3d., and the limit placed upon a parcel of good bold white bone was 7d. per lb.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—A recent arrival of fine Singapore was put up, and after some hesitation it sold at 14s. per cwt. It mostly consisted of hand-picked lump and balls of brilliant colour; another lot of similar quality was bought in at 15s. A package of good medium lump sold at 11s. 2s. 6d. per cwt.

ERGOT OF RYE.—A bid of 1s. 11d. per lb. was refused for 6 bags of old wormy Spanish; the limit was 2s. 2d. Six ditto of fair Russian were held for 1s. 6d. The market privately is quiet, there being spot sellers of Russian at 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.; for delivery in three or four weeks 1s. 4½d. c.i.f. is quoted.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—Fair Mogadore quality (11 bags) was bought in at 6s. per cwt.

GALANGAL.—Two bags from Colombo previously offered were again bought in at 25s. per cwt.

GAMBOGE was in plentiful supply. A parcel of 36 cases was offered, consisting mostly of fair pipe from Singapore, partly run and blocky, orange fracture, was bought in at 8s. 10s. per cwt.; damp and blocky run pipe sold at 6s. 17s. 6d., and pickings at 6s. 7s. 6d.

GUM ARABIC.—Of 20 serons good yellowish soft sorts from Suez 10 sold at 75s., small picked Trieste grain was bought in at 5s. 10s. per cwt., privately retail sales of Persian sorts have been made at 19s. 3d. per cwt.

GUM ELEMI.—After a long absence of this drug from the auctions owing to scarcity, six cases of fair pale gum of good flavour realised 7s. 15s. per cwt.

GUM GUAIACUM.—Good resinous block partly loose drop was held for 2s. : for ditto, not quite so good, 1s. 9d. is to be submitted.

GUM MYRRH.—The only sales were a few cases of mixed pea-and-bean size gum which brought 47s. 6d. per cwt., and chips at 15s.; small to bold pale picked was bought in at 6s., and for very dark bold sorts a bid of 20s. is to be submitted.

HONEY.—Pale amber Jamaica sold at 26s., and white at 28s. per cwt.

INSECT-POWDER sold at from 5d. to 6d. per lb. without reserve.

IPECACUANHA.—Rio sold at about steady rates, fair to bold sound root realising from 12s. 1d. to 12s. 6d. per lb., one bale selling at the latter figure. Cartagena was neglected, several parcels being bought in at 9s. per lb. Two bales of nice picked root have been sold privately at 9s. So far this month about 100 bales of both Rio and Cartagena have been delivered from the warehouses. not including the business done to-day, which fact no doubt accounts for the firmness on the part of holders. An entry of "94 pkgs. drugs" per *Danube*, from Monte Video, is printed in Bill A this week, which is understood to refer to Rio-root.

KINO.—Small dark and blocky Cochin grain brought 1s. per lb.

LEMON-JUICE.—New crop from Palermo, containing 8·1 oz. citric acid per gallon, offered "without reserve," and sold at 1s. 1½d. per gallon. Altogether this parcel consisted of 9 pipes and 8 hogheads.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—For ordinary common undecorticated Persian 12s. was wanted; a bid of 10s. 6d. had been refused privately.

MUSK.—Of a new arrival of three tins one sold at 35s. per oz. for Pile III., small to bold thin skin blue, few pasty and dampish, with a few broken pods; one caddy of Pile I., medium to bold fine thin skin blue, of fine flavour and fairly dry, was limited at 66s. per oz.; eight packages of Nepaul

grain musk, dry, powdery, and mixed, were bought in at 25s. A tin of Cabardine musk, dampish, sold at 10s. 6d. per oz.

OIL, CAJUPUT.—Fair green Singapore was held for 2s. 4d. per bottle.

OIL, LEMONGRASS.—A parcel of doubtful quality lying at a private warehouse sold at 2*½*d. per oz.

ORRIS.—Brown Verona root sold without reserve at 29s. to 29s. 6d. per cwt. A cask of what was said by a wholesale druggist to be "exhausted orris-root" sold at 29s. 6d. "without reserve." There is some inquiry privately, but there are cheap sellers on the spot, who offer below the parity of c.i.f. rates.

PATCHOULI-LEAVES.—Three cases of common small shrivelled leaves from Penang were bought in at 5d. per lb.

QUINCE-SEED.—A recent arrival from the Cape realised 1s. 2d. per lb. for fair.

RHUBARB.—The sales consisted mostly of common grades, which sold as under:—Shensi: Fine round small to medium, even pinky fracture, realised 2s. 3d. per lb., subject; medium to bold, common flat three-quarter grey and one-quarter dark fracture, 7*½*d. to 9d.; round ditto, 6*¾*d.; good small rough flat, 1s. 2d.; and good rough round pickings, 1s. 1d.; high-dried, good bold flat, half pinky, half grey and dark fracture, 8*¾*d. Canton: Two cases offered "without reserve" sold at 7*½*d. for fair medium root, three-quarter pinky and one-quarter grey fracture. Another lot of 7 cases good grey sold at 7*½*d. per lb., subject to approval.

SARSAPARILLA.—Quiet in auction; fair Honduras root sold at 1s. 2d. per lb. for damaged; for grey Jamaica root 11 bales were held for 1s. 8d. Lima Jamaica (14 bales), damaged, sold at from 1s. to 1s. 1d. Guayaquil had not arrived in time for the auctions.

SCAMMONY-ROOT.—Twenty bags realised 31s. per cwt.

SENNA.—The small quantity of Tinnevelly offered was in second-hands. Good green bold sold at 5*½*d. per lb., and common to medium *¾*d. to 1*½*d. No more shipments of Tinnevelly are expected until the arrival of the new crop about August. Already reports are being circulated that it will be a short one owing to labour being scarce. The market privately for Alexandrian is very quiet, and quotations are nominal. Small sales of fine pods are reported at full prices. Nothing was sold in auction.

TONKA-BEANS.—Good frosted Pará were bought in at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d. per lb.; a package of common sold at 6d. For 2 cases of foxy ditto 1s. per lb. was refused. No Angostura beans were offered.

WAX, BEES'.—The feature of this article was the heavy supply (773 packages) of Madagascar offered, but a very small proportion found buyers; dark mixed and wormy sold at 6*½*d. 10s. to 6*½*d. 15s. Jamaica was in small supply. Fine yellow and orange to dark-brown mixed realised from 7*½*d. 5s. to 7*½*d. 6*½*d.; and Zanzibar, mixed colours, 6*½*d. 15s. per cwt.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Yellowish squares were bought in at 33s. per cwt.; ten caskets of this parcel had been sold privately.

## Consular Counsel.

**A**MONG the Foreign Office reports recently issued is a well-written one on the trade of

### LEGHORN.

In this Mr. Vice-Consul Carmichael reports a distinct improvement regarding copper sulphate, argols, olive oil, orris-root, and wax. We are in danger of losing our trade in copper sulphate with Italy owing to keen cutting by the United States, which sells at about 3*½*f. per quintal less than British makers, although their freight is 5s. per ton more. About the date of writing (April 14), the Consul tells us that a New York steamer was due at Leghorn containing 1,900 barrels of copper sulphate, 900 of which were consigned to Leghorn, and the remainder to other Italian ports. Another fact to be reckoned with is that Italy herself is about to

enter the field, and she is likely to prove a formidable competitor, as an influential company has been formed—the "Società Metallurgica"—to manufacture copper sulphate on a large scale. In regard to orris-root our Consul refers to the operations of the syndicate, which is still holding its stocks. We should rather doubt the statement, however, that "representatives of a large perfume-factory at Grasse recently endeavoured to obtain a small quantity of orris without success," as the drug has been freely offered to London buyers by dealers outside the syndicate who would be only too glad to sell. Mr. Consul Churchill sounds a note of warning with regard to the adulteration of beeswax, information having reached him that several British houses have received parcels of adulterated wax shipped from Leghorn, when pure wax had been ordered and paid for. The remedy for this state of things would be for British importers to deal with first-class houses only, and to beware of low prices. Boric-acid exports increased about 4,000*l.* in value—34,652*l.* against 30,991*l.*; on the other hand, borax declined from 6,111*l.* in 1898 to 4,867*l.* in 1899. The beeswax business fell off by about 700 cwt., but values were higher during the year. In the list of exports those relating to orris are not mentioned, the presumption being that no official statistics are kept.

### SPAIN.

A 3*d.* report extending to fifty-eight pages and dealing with the consular district of Malaga furnishes us with little information. There was a fair crop of olive oil in the immediate district of Malaga, but it was only of medium quality. The almond-crop amounted to about 200,000 arrobas (1=25 lbs.) of good quality. The principal consumers were England and the United States.

## Coming Events.

### Tuesday, May 29.

*Royal Photographic Society*, 66 Russell Square, W.C., at 8 P.M. Exhibition of 140 photographs by Dr. P. Emerson will be opened.

### Wednesday, May 30.

*Public and Poor-law Dispensers' Association*, St. Bride's Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., at 8 P.M. Mr. R. E. Jones (Poplar) on "Some Aspects of Pharmacy."

*Society of Chemical Industry* (Nottingham Section), University College, Nottingham, at 7 P.M. "The Systematic Indexing and Preservation of Notes and Records," by Mr. L. Meggitt. *Nottingham Chemists' Association*, Albert Hotel, Nottingham, at 8.45 P.M. Annual meeting.

### Thursday, May 31

*The Optical Society*. Social evening in the Crown Room, Holborn Restaurant, at 8 P.M.

### Friday, June 1.

*Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 o'clock. Sir Henry Roscoe on "Bunsen."

"ROYAL" BAKING-POWDER.—In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on May 24, Mr. Justice Byrne delivered his reserved judgment on the appeal on behalf of the Royal Baking-powder Company, of New York, from the decision of the Comptroller of Trade-Marks, whereby he allowed a label of "Royal Baking-powder," by Wright, Crossley & Co., of North John Street, Liverpool, to be registered. The appeal was allowed.

AN EXPLOSION took place in one of the buildings belonging to Karl von Bauer's chemical factory in Elberfeld on May 15, which resulted in its almost total destruction. Fortunately no lives were lost, but seven persons were injured.

**BRUNNER, MOND & CO. (LIMITED).**—Writing to the *Daily Bullionist*, Mr. Alfred Mond, managing director of this company, claims that no other industrial concern in this country can show such a record of dividends both as regards the rates paid and the absence of large fluctuation. For the financial year just closed the sum carried forward (110,000*l.*) is sufficient to pay an additional dividend of 10 per cent. for the year.